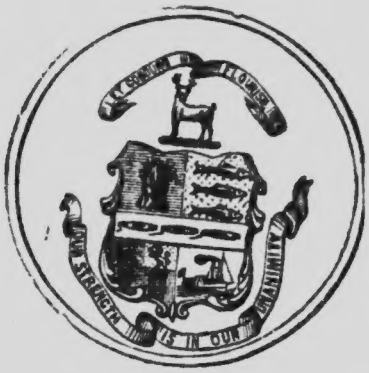
Rules of Order
Municipal Council
Town of Cobourg



Historical Reminiscences of the Town for the Past Hundred Years

RULES OF ORDER

—OF THE—

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

—OF THE—

Town of Cobourg

Passed the 10th day of August, 1903.

COBOURG:
FLOYD AND MCGUIRE, PRINTERS,
1903.

By-Law No. 750.

A By-Law to provide Standing Rules of Order for Regulating the Proceedings of the Municipal Council of the Town of Cobourg.

Passed the 10th day of August, A. D., 1903.

BE IT ENACTED by the authority of the Town Council of the Town of Cobourg, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that the following Rules shall be and are hereby adopted as the Standing Rules of Order to regulate all proceedings of the said Town Council, that is to say :—

MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

1. After its inaugural meeting, the Council shall meet on every alternate Monday during the year at 8 o'clock p. m., unless otherwise ordered by special motion or unless such Monday is a public or civic holiday in which case the Council shall meet at the same hour on the next day following which is not a holiday. The inaugural meeting of the new Council in each year shall be opened with prayer, the officiating clergyman to be chosen by the mayor elect.

2. The mayor may at any time summon a special meeting of the Council ; and it shall be his duty to summon a special meeting whenever requested in writing so to do by a majority of the members of the Council.

(2) In case of the absence or death of the mayor, or head of the Council, a special meeting may be summoned at any time by the clerk upon a special requisition to him signed by a majority of the members of the Council. Also whoever calls a special meeting of the Council, they shall deliver to the Chief of

Police the summons. The Chief shall notify each member of the Council, if possible, forthwith and obtain their signature to each summons. He shall then deliver the summons to the town clerk.

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS.

3. As soon after the hour of meeting as there shall be a quorum present, the mayor shall take the chair, and call the members to order.

4. In case the mayor does not attend within fifteen minutes after the time appointed, the clerk shall call the members to order, and if a quorum be present, a chairman shall be chosen, who shall preside during the meeting, or until the arrival of the mayor.

5. If there be no quorum present within half an hour after the time appointed for the meeting, the clerk shall call the roll and take down the names of the members then present, and the Council shall stand adjourned until the next day of meeting, subject to the provisions of section 2 of this By-law. A majority of the members of the Council shall be a quorum.

6. Immediately after the mayor shall have taken his seat, the minutes of the preceding meeting shall be read by the clerk, in order that any mistake therein may be corrected by the Council.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

I. Reading and confirming the minutes.

II. Reading accounts.

III. Reading communications.

IV. Reports of Committees—Streets and Parks; Fire, Water and Light; Town Hall, Police and Printing; License and Market; Manufacturing; By-Laws and Health; Finance, Harbor and Abatement.

V. Unfinished business.

VI. New business.

7. The mayor shall preserve order and decorum, and decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Council, and in the absence of the mayor, the chairman shall have the same authority while presiding at the meeting as the mayor would have had if present.

8. When the mayor is called upon to decide a point of order or practice, the point shall be stated without unnecessary comment, and the mayor shall cite the rule or authority applicable to the case.

9. The mayor may vote with the other members on all questions; and any question on which there is an equality of votes shall be deemed to be negatived.

10. If the mayor desires to leave the chair for the purpose of taking part in the debate or otherwise, he shall call on some other member of the Council to fill his place until he resumes the chair.

11. Every member, previous to speaking to any question or motion, shall rise from his seat, uncovered, and shall address himself to the mayor.

12. When two or more members rise to speak, the mayor shall name the member who, in his opinion, first rose from his seat; but a motion may be made that any member who has risen "be now heard" or "do now speak."

13. Every member who is present in the Council chamber when a question is put, shall vote thereon, unless the Council shall excuse him, or unless he is personally interested in the question, provided such interest is resolvable into a personal pecuniary profit, or is peculiar to that member, and not one in common with the interests of the citizens at large, and in such cases he shall not vote.

14. When the mayor is putting the question no member shall walk across or out of the room, or make any noise or disturbance; nor when a member is speaking shall any other member pass between him and the chair, or interrupt him, except to raise a point of order.

15. A member called to order from the chair shall immediately sit down, but may afterwards explain; and the Council, if appealed to, shall decide the case, but without debate; if there be no appeal the decision of the mayor shall be final.

16. No member shall speak disrespectfully of His Majesty the King, or of any of the Royal Family, or of the Governor-General, Lieutenant-Governor, or person administering the Government of the Dominion or of this Province; nor shall he use offensive words in or against the Council or against any member thereof; nor shall he speak beside the question in debate; and no member shall reflect upon any vote of the Council except for the purpose of moving that such vote be rescind-

ed ; nor shall he resist the rules of the Council, or disobey the decision of the mayor or of the Council on questions of order or practice or upon the interpretation of the rules of the Council ; and in case any member shall so resist or disobey, he may be ordered by the mayor to leave his seat for that meeting ; but in case of ample apology being made by the offender, he may, by vote of the Council, be permitted forthwith to take his seat.

17. Any member may require the question or motion under discussion to be read at any time during the debate, but not so as to interrupt a member while speaking.

18. No member shall speak more than once to the same question, without leave of the Council, except in explanation of a material part of his speech which may have been misconceived ; and in doing so he is not to introduce new matter. A reply is allowed to a member who has made a substantive motion, but not to any member who has moved an order of the day, an amendment, the previous question, or an instruction to a committee. No member, without leave of the Council, shall speak to the same question, or in reply, for longer than a quarter of an hour.

19. Whenever a division of the Council upon a By-law, resolution or for any other purpose, each member of the Council present voting shall announce his vote upon the question openly and individually in the Council and the clerk shall record the same.—(62 Victoria, Chap. 36, Sec. 19, S. S. 2.)

20. All inquiries shall be in writing, and shall be handed to the clerk of the Council at least two clear days before the day of the meeting at which such inquiry is to be made ; and the answer to such inquiry shall also be put in writing and handed

to the mayor or other presiding officer at least one hour before the meeting, and shall be read by him from the chair.

21. No person except members and officers of the Council shall be allowed to come within the bar during the sittings of the Council without the permission of the mayor or an alderman.

22. The members of the Council shall not leave their places, on adjournment, until the mayor leaves the chair.

23. No standing rule or order of Council shall be suspended, except by vote of two-thirds of the members present.

24. In all unprovided cases in the proceedings of Council or in committee, the law of Parliament shall be followed.

25. One day's notice shall be given of all motions for introducing new matter other than matters of privilege and bringing up petitions, unless the Council dispense with such notice by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, without debate.

26. All motions shall be in writing and seconded before being debated or put from the chair, but motions to adjourn or go into committee of the whole may be made viva voce. When a motion is seconded, it shall be read, or if viva voce, stated by the mayor before debate.

27. After a motion is read or stated by the mayor, it shall be deemed to be in possession of the Council, but may, with permission of the Council, be withdrawn at any time before decision or amendment.

28. A motion for commitment, until it is decided, shall preclude all amendment of the main question.

29. Every bill shall receive three several readings, and on different days previous to its being passed, except on urgent and extraordinary occasions, and upon a vote of two-thirds of the members present, when it may be read twice or thrice, or advanced two or more stages in one day.

30. A motion to adjourn the Council, or adjourn the debate, shall always be in order, but no second motion to the same effect shall be made until after some intermediate proceeding shall have been had.

31. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, unless (1) to commit it; (2) to amend it (3) to lay it on the table; (4) to postpone it indefinitely; (5) to postpone it to a certain time (6) to adjourn it; (7) to move the previous question, these several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are named and the last five shall be neither amendable nor debatable.

32. The previous question, until it is decided, shall preclude all amendment of the main question, and shall be put, without debate, in the following words: "That this question be now put;" if this motion be resolved in the affirmative, the original question is to be put forthwith, without any amendment or debate; but if the previous question is resolved in the negative, the main question may then be debated and amended.

33. Amendments shall be put in the reverse order to that in which they are moved, except in filling up blanks, when the longest time and smallest sum shall be put first. Every amendmend submitted shall be reduced to writing, and shall be decided or withdrawn before the main question is put to the vote. Only one amendment shall be allowed to an amendment, and

any amendment more than one must be to the main question.

34. When the question under consideration contains distinct propositions, the vote upon each proposition shall, upon the request of any member, be taken separately.

35. After a question is finally put by the mayor, no member shall speak to the question, nor shall any other motion be made until after the result of the vote has been declared; and the decision of the mayor, as to whether the question has been finally put, shall be conclusive.

36. When the mayor is of opinion that a motion is contrary to the rules and privileges of the Council, he shall apprise the members thereof immediately, before putting the question, and shall cite the rule or authority applicable to the case, without argument or comment.

37. Whenever any matter of privilege arises, it shall be immediately taken into consideration.

38. Members, having been previously summoned, shall immediately take their places when any division is called for, and shall remain in their places until the mayor or chairman has declared the result of the division.

PROCEEDINGS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

39. Whenever it shall be moved and carried that the Council shall go into committee of the whole, the mayor shall leave the chair, but he shall first appoint a chairman of the committee of the whole, who shall maintain order in the committee, and shall report the proceedings thereof.

40. The rules of the Council shall be observed in committee of the whole, so far as may be applicable, except that no motion shall require to be seconded, nor shall a motion for a previous question, or for an adjournment be allowed; and in taking the yeas and nays the names of the members shall not be recorded, nor shall the number of times of speaking on any question be limited. Provided, however, that no member shall speak more than twice until every member who desires to do so shall have spoken.

41. Questions of order arising in committee of the whole shall be decided by the chairman, subject to an appeal by any member to the Council. If any disorder should arise in the committee the mayor shall resume the chair, without any question being put.

42. On motion in committee of the whole to rise and report, the question shall be decided without debate.

43. A motion in the committee of the whole to rise without reporting, or that the chairman leave the chair, shall always be in order, and shall have precedence of any other motion. On such motion debate shall be allowed, and, on an affirmative vote, the subject referred to the committee shall be considered as disposed of in the negative, and the mayor shall resume the chair, and proceed with the next order of business.

READING OF BILLS AND PROCEEDINGS THEREON.

44. Every bill shall be introduced upon motion for leave, specifying the title of the bill, or upon motion to appoint a committee to prepare and bring in the bill.

45. No bill shall be introduced either in blank, or in any imperfect shape.

46. The question, "That this bill be now read a first time," shall be decided without amendment or debate; and every bill shall be read a second time, and then considered in committee of the whole, and shall be read a third time before it is signed by the mayor.

47. The clerk shall indorse on all bills read in the Council the dates of the several readings thereof, and shall be responsible for the correctness of such bills should they be amended.

48. In proceedings in committee of the whole upon bills, each clause shall be considered in its proper order, then the preamble, and then the title.

49. All amendments made in committee of the whole shall be reported by the chairman of the Council, which shall receive the same forthwith. After the report has been received, the bill shall be open to debate and amendment before it is ordered for a third reading.

50. Every by-law which has passed the Council shall, immediately after being sealed with the seal of the corporation, and signed by the mayor, be deposited by the clerk for security in the safe connected with his office.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

51. Every petition, remonstrance, or other written application intended to be presented to the Council must be fairly written or printed on paper or parchment, and signed by at least one person; and no letters, affidavits, or other documents shall

be attached to it.

COMMITTEES.

52. Every member who shall introduce a Bill, Petition, or Motion, upon any subject which may be referred to a Select Committee, shall be one of the Committee without being named by the Council, and shall, unless he otherwise determines, be the Chairman of such committee.

53. Should a chairman of any committee neglect or refuse to call a meeting of the committee at such times or with such frequency as the proper despatch of the business entrusted to them requires, or do the business of the committee without the knowledge or consent of its members, or contrary to their wishes or sanction, the committee may report such neglect, refusal, or action, to the Council, who may, if they deem it advisable, remove the said chairman from the committee and appoint another member in his place, and every such re-constructed committee shall have a right to appoint a chairman, who shall report such appointment to the Clerk of the Council, and it shall be the duty of the Clerk from time to time to notify the chairman of any business requiring attention.

54. A majority of the whole number of any committee shall be a quorum, competent to proceed to business, and in the absence of the chairman, may appoint a chairman pro tem.

55. No Standing Committee of the Council, shall consist of less than three members.

56. Members of the Council may attend the meetings of any of its Committees, but unless they are members of the Commit-

tee, they shall not be allowed to vote, nor shall they be allowed to take part in any discussion or debate, except by the permission of the majority of the committee.

57. Every committee appointed to report on any subject referred to it by the Council, shall report a statement of facts wich its opinions thereon in writing, and no report shall be presented to the Council as the Report of any Committee unless agreed to by a majority of the members of the Committee present at a meeting for the transaction of business and signed by the chairman, provided that the minority of any committee may present a written report on the matter referred to it, but so that such report shall be specially designated a "Minority Report."

58. No meeting of any committee shall be called upon less than 24 hours' notice, except in cases of emergency.

59. The chairman and members of every committee shall, at all sittings thereof, adhere to the Standing Rules of Order of the Council whenever applicable, and also to the general By-laws of the town.

60. At the tne first meeting of the Council in each year, a committee to strike the Standing Committees for the year shall be named, and at the second meeting of the Council such Standing Committees shall be appointed.

61. The Standing Committees of the Council shall be, first, Finance, Harbor and Abatement; second, Streets and Parks; third, Fire, Water and Light; fourth, Town Hall, Printing and Police; fifth, By-laws and Health; sixth, Market and License; seventh, Court of Revision; eighth, Manufacturing.

SELECT COMMITTEES.

62. When a Select Committee shall be appointed for any purpose, it shall be the duty of the clerk to furnish the chairman of the committee with a copy of the resolution appointing the committee, and such member shall notify the other members of the time and place for such committee to meet, or such chairman may request the clerk to give the requisite notices which the said clerk shall thereupon do.

63. All accounts and claims against the Town, shall, unless otherwise specially provide for by By-law or resolution of the Council, be referred to and reported on by the Finance Committee and the report thereon adopted by the Council before being paid, and every such resolution or report shall be entered in the Minutes of the Council.

64. No committee, nor any member of this Council, nor any officer thereof, shall directly or indirectly enter into any contract with or authorize the purchase of, or purchase any article or any goods, wares or merchandize from any one or more of the members of this Council, or from any officer thereof.

65. No officer of the Corporation nor any member of the Council shall, on behalf of the Corporation, enter into any contract or incur any debt not exceeding $10 without having obtained by By-law or resolution the previous authority and sanction of the Council in that behalf.

66. Any breach of the Regulation imposed by the preceding Section of this By-law, on the part of any officer of the Corporation, shall subject him to forfeiture of his office and immediate removal therefrom.

67. In all unprovided cases in the proceedings of the Council, the law of Parliament shall govern.

68. By-law Number 357 and all other By-laws of this Council, respecting the Standing Rules of Order of this Coumcil, are hereby repealed.

D. H. MINAKER, Clerk.

WILLIAM H. FLOYD, Mayor.

Cobourg August 10th, 1903.

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Printed by authority of the following resolution, passed May 4th, 1903 :—

"That a short historical record and list of the Mayors and Councillors of the Town be printed with the Rules of Order."

D. EWING,
WILLIAM H. FLOYD, } Committee.

Members of the Board of Police from 1837 to 1849.

June, 1837—Ebenezer Perry, president; G. Ham, A. Jeffrey, Wm. Weller, W. S. Conger.

1838—Wm. Weller, chairman; Geo. Ham, president; E. Perry, Asa Burnham, W. S. Conger.

1839—W. S. Conger, president; Wm. Weller, D. E. Boulton, Wm. Lauder, Alex. Crouter.

1840—D. E. Boulton, president; W. S. Conger, Chas. Clark, W. Lauder, W. Weller.

1841—D. E. Boulton, president; Wm. Weller, W. S. Conger, and Benj. Clark, Jas. Canovan, Asa Burnham.

1842—D. E. Boulton, president; A. A. Burnham, Wm. Weller, Geo. Perry, F. Burnet, jr.

1843—Wm. Weller, president; D. E. Boulton, Geo. Perry, Jas. Calcutt, A. A. Burnham.

1844—Wm. Weller, president; A. A. Burnham, Jas. Calcutt, Andrew Milne, Geo. Perry.

1845—A. A. Burnham, president; F. Burnet, Jos. Philp, W. Carveth, N. J. Ham.

1846—D. E. Boulton, president; Jas. McConnell, Hy McCarthy, F. S. Clench, E. C. Hull.

January, 1847—A. A. Burnham, president; Andrew Milne, Francis Burnet, Wm. Weller, Dr. Beatty.

1848—A. A. Burnham, president; A. Milne, Francis Burnet J. Helm, sr., Dr. Beatty.

1849—A. A. Burnham, president; F. Burnet, J. Helm, A. Milne, H. McCarthy.

Members of the Town Council from 1850 to 1903.

1850—Wm. Weiler, mayor; A. A. Burnham, F. Burnet, Jas. Canovan, J. Helm, sr., A. Milne, Geo. Perry, Thos. Scott, R. H. Throop.

1851—Wm. Weller, mayor; A. A. Burnham, D. E. Boulton, John Beatty, Thomas Eyre, J. A. Gilchrist, A. Jeffrey, Geo. Perry, R. H. Throop.

1852—Andrew Jeffrey, mayor; John Beatty, D. E. Boulton, F. Burnet, G. Bennet, T. Duignan, A. Milne, R. H. Throop, and W. Weller.

1853—S. E. McKechnie, mayor; D. E. Boulton, J. Beatty, H. Covert, O. W. Powell, H. J. Ruttan, Sidney Smith, R. H. Throop, W. Weller.

1854—D. E. Boulton, mayor; John Beatty, G. S. Castle, H. Covert, O. W. Powell, H. J. Ruttan, Sidney Smith, R. H. Throop, W. Weller.

1855—D. E. Boulton, mayor; John S. Beamish, Jas. Cockburn, Geo. M. Clark, G. S. Castle, H. Covert, H. J. Ruttan, R. H. Throop, W. Weller.

1856—D. E. Boulton, mayor; Jas. Cockburn, Geo. M. Clark, Jas. Canovan, H. Covert, J. Densmore, Wm. Graveley, W. Pearson, H. J. Ruttan.

1857—D. E. Boulton, mayor; Wm. Butler, Geo. M. Clark, Jas. Canovan, H. Covert, Jas. B. Fortune, J. Densmore, H. J. Ruttan, W. Weller.

1858—John Beatty, mayor; G. S. Boulton, D. E. Boulton, A. A. Burnham, J. D. Armour, Thomas Dumble, J. B. Fortune, Sidney Smith, Wm. Tourji.

1859—The mayor was elected by the ratepayers.

John Beatty, mayor; John D. Armour, Geo. S. Boulton, A. A. Burnham, Jas. Cockburn, Roe Buck, Arthur McDonald, Geo. Perry, Wm. Tourjie, Sidney Smith.

1860—John Beatty, mayor; John Field, Wm. Hargraft, A. S. Kennedy, John McCarthy, Joseph Pidgeon, Rich. Pomeroy, Sam. Retallick, Wm. Tourjie, W. G. Pentland.

1861—A. A. Burnham, mayor; J. D. Armour, Roe Buck, A. Barr, J. Cameron, J. C. Field, A. S. Kennedy, Geo. Perry, W. Tourjie, J. S. Wallace.

1862—A. A. Burnham, mayor; A. Barr, J. Cameron, J. Densmore, J. C. Field, A. S. Kennedy, B. Ough, W. L. Payne, J. Pidgeon, John Sutherland.

1863—Wm. Weller, mayor; A. Barr, Thos. Battell, Wm. Burke, J. Densmore, Edward Ely, A. McCallum, B. Ough, W. L. Payne, Joseph Pidgeon.

1864—G. S. Daintry, mayor; Thos. Battell, Edward Ely, J. C. Field, Wm. Hargraft, And. Hewson, D. H. Minaker, W. L. Payne, John Sutherland, Wm. Kerr.

1865—G. S. Daintry, mayor; Edward Ely, J. C. Field, Wm. Hargraft, A. Hewson, Wm. Jex, Wm. Kerr, D. H. Minaker, W. L. Payne, John Sutherland.

1866—John Beatty, mayor; Edward Ely, J. C. Field, W. graft, Wm. Jex, Wm. Kerr, D. H. Minaker, W. I. Stanton, John Sutherland, W. L. Payne.

1867—John Beatty, mayor; Edward Ely, J. C. Field, W. T. Greenwood, A. Hewson, W. Hargraft, Wm. Jex, Wm. Kerr, D. H. Minaker, W. L. Payne.

1868—W. Kerr, mayor; A. Hewson, H. Hough, W. L. Payne,

W. Jex, D. H. Minaker, Wm. Hargraft, Edward Ely, Wm. T. Greenwood, J. C. Field.

1869—Wm. Kerr, mayor; A. Hewson, D. H. Minaker, Wm. Hargraft, Edward Ely, J. C. Field, W. L. Payne, W. H. Floyd, Thos. McNaughton, Wm. Jex.

1870—Wm. Kerr, mayor; Wm. Hargraft, A. Hewson, J. C. Field, Thos. McNaughton, Wm. Jex, W. L. Payne, W. H. Floyd, Edward Ely, Wm. Battell, jr.

1871—Wm. Kerr, mayor; Wm. Battell, Wm. Jex, A. Hewson, Wm. Hargraft, J. C. Field, W. H. Floyd, Thos. McNaughton, Adam Dickson, W. L. Payne.

1872—Wm. Kerr, mayor; Thos. McNaughton, Geo. Guillet, W. Jex, Wm. Battell, A. A. Burnham, jr; Maj. W. H. Floyd, W. L. Payne, Alex. Barr, J. C. Field.

1873—Wm. Kerr, mayor; Thos. McNaughton, Geo. Guillet, Adam Dickson, Wm. Battell, D. H. Minaker, Thos. Gillbard, J. C. Field, P. McCallum, jr., Maj. W. H. Floyd.

1874—Wm. Hargraft, mayor; Thos. Gillbard, Wm. Battell J. C. Field, Maj. W. H. Floyd, D. H. Minaker, P. McCallum, Geo. Guillet, Thos. McNaughton, Adam Dickson.

1875—John Sutherland, mayor; Thos. Gillbard, Wm. Battell, Geo. Guillet, Isaac Wilson, W. Henderson, P. McCallum, jr., Robt. Mulholland, John Thompson, W. L. Payne.

1876—Geo. Guillet, mayor; Wm. Battell, Adam Dickson, Lt.-Col. J. Vance Graveley, Wm. Henderson, Robt. Mulholland, P. McCallum, jr., D. McAllister, John Thompson, Isaac Wilson.

1877—Geo. Guillet, mayor; Wm. Battell, Adam Dickson, Wm. Henderson, Thos. Kershaw, Robt. Mulholland, J. J. Martin, D. McAllister, O. W. Powell, Isaac Wilson.

1878—Geo. Guillet, mayor; Adam Dickson, J. C. Field, R. Mulholland, D. McAllister, O. W. Powell, Alfred Roberts, John Thompson, James Winn, Isaac Wilson.

1879—Geo. Guillet, mayor; W. Battell, L. B. Densmore, C. C. Field, J. E. Kennedy, J J. Martin, O. W. Powell, John Thompson, James Winn, Isaac Wilson.

1880—Lt.-Col. J. Vance Graveley, mayor; Sam Clarke, L. B. Densmore, C. C. Field, J. E. Kennedy, J. J. Martin, W. L Payne, John Thompson, James Winn, Isaac Wilson.

1881—Lt.-Col. J. Vance Graveley, mayor; Sam Clarke, C. C Field, George Guillet, A. J. Hewson, D. H. Minaker, O. W. Powell, Lt.-Col. Henry Smith, James Winn, Isaac Wilson.

1882—Lt.-Col J. Vance Graveley, mayor; Wm. Battell, Sam Clarke, John Daintry, Michael Fox, C C Field, D. H. Minaker, O. W. Powell, D Rooney, Lt.-Col. Henry Smith

1883—Lt.-Col J Vance Graveley, mayor; Wm Battell, James Bulger, John Daintry, C. C. Field, A. J. Hewson, John Hamilton, Lt.-Col. Henry Smith, Isaac Wilson, D. H. Minaker.

1884—Lt.-Col J Vance Graveley, mayor; James Bulger, W. Battell, John Daintry, Sam Clarke, C C Field, A J Hewson, D. H. Minaker, Frank Reynolds, Isaac Wilson Thomas Rowe, for unexpired term.

1885—Lt.-Col. J. Vance Graveley, mayor; William Battell, John Daintry, Sam Clarke, C. C. Field, A. J. Hewson, P. J. Lightburne, M. C. Fox, Hugh Gordon, Richard Wilson.

1886—C. C. Field, mayor; William Battell, Sam Clarke, John Daintry, W. A. Deering, M. C. Fox, A. J. Hewson, J. D. Hayden, P. McCallum, jr., Richard Wilson.

1887—Sam Clarke, mayor; Wm. Battell, W. A. Deering, M. C. Fox, A. R. Hargraft, A. J. Hewson, J. D. Hayden, P. McCallum, jr., J. F. Hamilton, R. Wilson.

1888—Sam Clarke, mayor; James Bulger, H. Boggs, Wm. Battell, A. R. Hargraft, A. J. Hewson, J. D. Hayden, P. McCallum, jr., Alex. Pratt, R. Wilson.

1889—Sam Clarke, mayor; James Bulger, J. W. Bickle, Herb. Boggs, Wm. Battell, Lt.-Col. J. Vance Graveley, A. J. Hewson, J. D. Hayden, P. McCallum, jr., R. Wilson.

1890—Sam Clarke, mayor; J. W. Bickle, Herb. Boggs, Wm. Battell, F. M. Field, Elbert L. Fish, Lt.-Col. J. Vance Graveley, J. D. Hayden, P. McCallum, jr., R. Wilson.

1891—Wm. Battell, mayor; J. W. Bickle, Herb. Boggs, F. M. Field, E. L. Fish, Lt.-Col. J. Vance Graveley, J. D. Hayden, P. McCallum, jr., George Spence, R. Wilson.

1892—Wm. Battell, mayor; Herbert Boggs, F. M. Field, E. L. Fish, J. D. Hayden, J. L. Mitchell, P. McCallum, jr., Lt.-Col. J. Vance Graveley, George Spence, R. Wilson.

1893—Rich. Wilson, mayor; J. W. Bickle, P. E. Delanty, E. L. Fish, John Henderson, Sidney Hobart, J. D. Hayden, E. C. S. Huycke, George Spence, John T. Webster.

1894—Rich. Wilson, mayor; J. W. Bickle, Herb. Boggs, P. E. Delanty, E. L. Fish, John Henderson, Sidney Hobert, J. D. Hayden, E. C. S. Huycke, George Spence.

1895—Rich. Wilson, mayor; Herb. Boggs, John Henderson, Sidney Hobert, J. D. Hayden, E. C. S. Huycke, J. B. McColl, J. W. Bickle, George Spence, J. P. Field.

1896—J. D. Hayden, mayor; George Spence, reeve; E. C. S. Huycke, 1st deputy reeve; J. B. McColl, 2nd deputy reeve; J. W. Bickle, Herb. Boggs, J. P. Field, T. A. Harvey, Alex.

Pratt, John Purser, Wm. Pratt, Henry Pengilly, Geo. Thomson.

1897—J. D. Hayden, mayor; E. C. S. Huycke, reeve; Sidney Hobart, 1st deputy reeve; Wm. Whitelaw, 2nd deputy reeve; John Batton, J. W. Bickle, Herbert Boggs, J. P. Field, W. J. Maher, Geo. E. Mitchell, John Purser, Alex. Pratt, Wm. Pratt.

1898—J. D. Hayden, mayor; E. C. S. Huycke, reeve; Sidney Hobart, 1st deputy reeve; Wm. Whitelaw, 2nd deputy reeve; Geo. T. Bickle, Herb. Boggs, Sam Clarke, J. P. Field, Wm. H. Floyd, W. J. Maher, H. Pengilly, John Purser, Alex. Pratt.

1899—E. C. S. Huycke, mayor; Herbert Boggs, George T. Bickle, J. P. Field, W. H. Floyd, Sidney Hobart, W. J. Maher.

1900—E. C. S. Huycke, mayor; Herbert Boggs, Geo. T. Bickle, J. T. Field, Major Wm. H. Floyd, Geo. M. Ferris, W. J. Maher.

1901—E. C. S. Huycke, mayor; Geo. M. Ferris, F. M. Field, Major Wm. H. Floyd, J. T. Field, Geo. E. Mitchell, W. J. Maher.

1902—E. C. S. Huycke, mayor; David Ewing, J. T. Field, Geo. M. Ferris, W. J. Maher, Geo. Mitchell, Isaac Wilson.

1903—Major Wm. H. Floyd, mayor; Wm. Kerr, David Ewing, Bernard McAllister, Nath. McCarthy, Alex. McCutcheon, Isaac Wilson, (retired May 1) H. L. McBride.

COBOURG.

Historical Reminiscences of the Town From Its Earliest Settlement

—BY—

DANIEL McALLISTER.

COBOURG, JUNE, 1903.

WM. WELLER
Mayor, 1850-51-63

HON. ANDREW JEFFREY
Mayor, 1852

STUART E. MCKECHNIE
Mayor, 1853

LIEUT. COL. D. E. BOULTON
Mayor, 1854-55-56-57

INTRODUCTION.

In writing these short Reminiscenses of the early settlement of Cobourg, and its progressive improvement and growth up to the present time, the work has been a labor of love for the grand old town wherein the writer has spent the happiest days of his childhood as well as those of his manhood. There may possibly be some errors as to dates or trifling episodes, but in the main the events recorded may be relied upon as given by an eye witness of the facts. The object is to briefly record the main facts incident to the first settlement of the town—its progress from hamlet to village, and from village to town. To write a more elaborate history of the town, with various little incidents in connection with its people, its government, its business, and its wealth and beauty, would require very much more space than can be utilized in the present undertaking.

DANIEL McALLISTER.

Historical Reminiscences of Cobourg

FROM ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT.

Little more than a century has passed since a dense, unbroken forest covered the spot on which the beautiful Town of Cobourg now stands, amidst its happy surrounding of well-cultivated, highly improved and prosperous farming country. And even the long period of a hundred years seems comparatively short when we consider the great improvements effected in the town, and the remarkable increase in the wealth, and value in productiveness of the rural environs tributary to our market. The rude shanties and primitive, though more pretentious, log houses have given place to very fine dwellings on the carefully cultivated farms. These are pleasing evidences of enterprise, industry and thrift, and consequent peace, plenty and happiness in our rural surroundings. Even such of the old settlers as are still living regard the changes effected in their time as marvellous, when they call to mind the fact that the first pioneers in this locality had to make a journey of at least forty miles through the forest with an ox cart or sled before they could reach the nearest mill to have their grist of wheat ground into flour : and when the line of communication between Kingston and Toronto was marked by nothing better than a bridle path.

The most reliable records indicate that the first settler within what is now the corporate limits of the Town of Cobourg was one Elias Nicholson. That was in 1798 ; and, according to tradition, the rude dwelling which he built and occupied stood

about where Mr. J. N. Campbell's place of business now stands, that is on the west side of the line now known as Division St., and close to the line of the present King St. Other adventurous spirits soon followed, and in 1804 quite a number were located in the vicinity, making the historical fact that the settlement of Cobourg dates from that year.

NOTE BY THE REVISER—C. C. James, Esq., Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, has kindly contributed several very valuable notes for the purpose of enlarging and enriching these reminiscences. From them are the following interesting facts in relation to the first survey and settlement of Hamilton township and Cobourg :—

"In the year 1791 Mr. Augustus Jones, one of the assistant surveyors, was instructed to survey the first concession line of a row of townships from the Bay of Quinte to the present Toronto harbor. He left Niagara on the 24th June, 1791, and, coming down the lake, began work on the 5th of August in the township of Cramahe. On the 9th of August he was in Haldimand, and on the 13th he was in Hamilton. This latter date therefore, gives us the first step towards providing for the settlement of Cobourg and the township out of which it was formed. In 1795 and 1796 the work was continued by surveyors Hambly and Root.

"On May 17th, 1802, the first patent was takent out by Eliud Nickerson, for Lot No. 16, Con. B, broken front.

"In several published papers it was stated that Elias Nicholson was the first settler. This name is a mistake. It should be Eluid Nickerson, as I first determined from the Crown Lands Records. Who was Eluid Nickerson? No trace has

been left of this pioneer settler. I was very much surprised and pleased a few days ago to find the following notice in a volume of The Church in the library of the Niagara Historical Society. It appeared in the issue of 7th April, 1843, and was taken from the St. Catharines Journal :—

" 'In Grantham on the 30th ultimo, Mr. Eluid Nickerson, aged 82 years. Mr. Nickerson was one of the gallant band of U. E. Loyalists who espoused the cause of their King at the time of the American Revolution, and who met the just reward of their hardships and privations during the eventful period in the special favour of their Sovereign on arriving in this Province.'

" The Church was printed and published at Cobourg, and I think, therefore, that we may conclude that this refers to the early settler of Cobourg ; and it may give us our first information as to the pioneer."

✦ General Progress ✦

Soon, as time passed on, improvements came to be effected. On one of the choicest sites within the limits Mr. George Strange Boulton, Registra Barrister-at-Law, Registrar of Deeds, and afterwards Legislative Councillor of old Canada, and a Senator of the Dominion, built the well-known " Northumberland Hall," and made it his home till his death. This stately old residence is now owned and occupied by Mr. H. Fitzhugh.

Mr. Ebenezer Perry, afterwards a Senator of Canada, put up the substantial building on the south of King street, close to Division, and carried on an extensive mercantile business in it for many years. The same premises are now occupied by Mr.

DR. JOHN BEATTY
Mayor, 1858-59-60-61-62

HON. ASA W. BURNHAM
Mayor, 1861-62

GEO. S. DAINTRY
Mayor, 1864-65

HON. WM. KERR, K.C.
Mayor, 1868-69-70-71-72-73

Thos. Kershaw and Mr. A. Willis. On the north side of King street, nearly midway between Division and George streets, Mr. Lewis Moffatt erected a building which for many years afterwards was occupied as a general store and bank agency by Mr. C. H. Morgan, well known in later days as manager of the Cobourg branch of the Bank of Montreal. Messrs. A. Hewson & Son now carry on their business in the same premises. The next pretentious brick structure—and a very fine residence it was for those days—was put up by Mr. Norman George Ham near his flouring mill on the north side of King street and immediately opposite Tremaine street. It is now occupied by Mr. John Fox. Many other fine residences soon sprang up, and large business houses were erected as the settlement progressed and population increased. Comparatively early a pier was built out into the lake to enable vessels to land and take on passengers and discharge freight, and a large frame storehouse was erected at the foot of Division street for the accommodation of merchandize passing in and out. In 1837—the year of the rebellion—the population had so much increased, a Board of Police for the government of the village was formed, composed of five members, Mr. Ebenezer Perry—already mentioned—being chosen the first President of the Board. The village officers then appointed were as follows :—

Clerk and Assessor—James Lambert, salary £15 ($60) per annum, fees extra.

Bailiff, Street Surveyor and Collector—William Grigg, pay 5 shillings ($1) a day as Street Inspector, and 5 per cent. on all collections.

Constables—James Tremble, George Birney, Richard Brown, and George Edgecombe.

Pound-keepers—S. P. Hart, and J. B. F. Cotter.

Treasurer—Robert Henry, agent of the Commercial Bank.

The population of the village now increased so rapidly that in 1840 it had become a centre of importance, and the municipal rulers of the day, out of compliment to Prince Albert of Saxe Coburg Gotha, the popular Consort of our late Most Gracious Majesty, gave it the name of *Cobourg.

NOTE BY THE REVISER—*This impression of Mr. McAllister's —an impression shared by many people—is left as he wrote it. It is quite clear, however, that the impression is not supported by fact. Mr. James, referring to the origin of the name has this to say :—"My next question is as to the naming of Cobourg—the time, the occasion and the spelling of the name. I have recently had the opportunity of reading copies of the letters of Robert Wade who came out from England in the summer of 1819. He and his family landed at Port Hope on the 22nd of August. He says, 'On the evening we would have landed at a small village named Cobourg in this township but could not land us, and we put off for Smith's Creek a distance of six miles where we arrived on Thursday morning.'

"This is the earliest mention I have found of the name, and, it is from a letter written in 1820, I think we may conclude that the name 'Cobourg' goes back to the middle of the year 1819.

'This fact proves that the town was not named after the Prince Consort, for the naming of the town goes back at least to the year of Queen Victoria's birth. We must look elsewhere.

In 1818 Charlotte Augusta, Princess of Wales, daughter of George IV, married Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfield,

and no doubt it was at this time or soon after that the name Cobourg was chosen for the little settlement in Hamilton township. The Rev. Mr. MacAulay was ordained in 1818 by the Bishop of London, and when he came out to take up his work in the new village on the lake he may have been influenced by the rejoicings of London in the marriage of the popular Princess.

"The spelling of ths name is due to the fact that for some reason or other the announcements of the engagement and marriage spelled the name in the Prince's title 'Cobourg' and not 'Coburg' as in Germany. Perhaps it was thought that the insertion of the second 'o' would assist the Londoner in pronouncing the name in accordance with the German method."

The increase in population continued so satisfactory that in 1850, under an Act of Incorporation then obtained, the village was promoted to the rank of a town, with a Council of nine members who, elected by the people, had in their turn the right to choose one of themselves as Mayor. That honour they conferred on Mr. William Weller, who for many years was one of our most enterprising and energetic business men, and who was known far and wide as the proprietor of the Royal Mail Line of stage coaches running between Toronto and Montreal. The town then became one of the minor municipalities of the United Counties of Northumberland and Durham, with representation in the Counties' Council, and the Town Council appointed Mr. Thomas Scott, then postmaster, as reeve, and Mr. Andrew Milne, merchant tailor, as deputy reeve, to represent the town in the larger municipalorganization.

The town officers appointed by the first Council were as follows :—

Auditors—Thomas Eyre and George M. Goodeve.

Collector—Thomas Dumble, Joseph Philp, and John Russell.

Chief Constable and Surveyor of Streets—Robert Craig, whose salary was £65 ($260) per annum.

Inspector of Weights and Measures—George S. Daintry.

Clerk and Treasurer, and Inspector of Common Schools—David Brodie. His salary as Clerk and Treasurer was £30 ($120) per annum, and as Inspector of Schools, £10 ($40) per annum. Mr. Brodie was clerk and treasurer of the village during the greater portion of its existence, and of the town from the time of its incorporation till his death in 1876.

In 1859 a change was made in the municipal law to the effect that the mayor and councillors were all chosen by the people. Dr. John Beatty was the first mayor elected under this arrangement.

During the sixty years which had elapsed between the coming of the first settler and the year last mentioned wonderful progress had been made, and many enterprises of great value to the community had been set on foot, and had been rewarded with deserved success. In the onward march of progress and improvement in our village and town few perhaps, if any, played a more prominent part than the Burnet family. Grandfather Frank Burnet, as he was familiarly called in the olden time here, emigrated from Scotland with his wife and family of five sons and one daughter, and settled here in the early 30's. The sons were John, James, Frank, William and David. The daughter became the wife of Mr. Wm. Lauder, whom our older people remember as the host of the old "Cross Keys" hotel, or tavern as it was then called. John died shortly after coming here. Grandfather Burnet was a quiet, shrewd and ingenious

WM. HARGRAFT
Mayor, 1874

JOHN SUTHERLAND
Mayor, 1875

MAJOR GEO. GUILLET
Mayor, 1876-77-78-79

C. C. FIELD
Mayor, 1880

old man; and his four sons who survived him were full of pluck, energy and daring enterprise. They were house carpenters and builders and became the leading contractors in their line of trade in the town. The principal buildings which we of Cobourg take pride in today—including our Town Hall—are monuments of their genius and ability. All that portion of the town south of King street, west of Ontario street, and bounded on the west by the side-line between township lots 19 and 20, was a neglected farm up to 1840, partly cultivated by one John Connell, a blacksmith. On it were two small shanties fronting Ontario street, and an old tumbled-down barn on King street, where the residence of Mr. F. W. Field, Registrar of Deeds, now stands. The Burnet brothers purchased this farm, the price being £700 ($2800) and at once had it surveyed into town lots, streets, etc., and offered lots to the public on very advantageous terms. To many of their own employees they sold lots and also built residences for them, allowing them to work out the price of their little homesteads without the least embarrassment to them, or interference with their ordinary daily comforts. On Ontario street they built four well-arranged and comfortable brick cottages, one at the junction with King street for Mr. Thos. Scott, then postmaster. That is now owned and occupied by Mr. Alfred Munson. Another, at the corner of Ontario and Tweed streets, for Mr. William Burnet; that now belongs to the McCallum estate; the third, farther south, for Mr. Frank Burnet; and the fourth for Mr. David Burnet. On the same street—Ontario—and close to the lake side, Mr. Arthur McBain erected the house which is now the main portion of "Cedarmere," and which for many years was owned and occupied by Mr. George E. Castle, and later by his widow. James Grieve, a well-known contractor of the former days, built that fine residence, "The Hill," at the head of Tremaine street, for

Mr. Winkworth Tremaine, one of our former merchants. For some years "The Hill" was the residence of Mr. Wm. Weller, already mentioned as our first mayor, and is now the property and summer residence of Mrs. Sartoris, daughter of the late General U. S. Grant, a former President of the United States. Thus the neglected farm was soon covered with homes more or less pretentious in comfort and degree, and therein may be seen the commendable impetus which was given to our town by the enterprise of the Burnet brothers.

Another very marked impetus was given to the already thriving village and to its business enterprises when in 1843, the brothers Mackechnie, Capt. Patrick Wallace and family, Mr. Heath and family, Mr. David Burn, and others came out from Scotland and settled here. Mr. D'Arcy Edward Boulton, afterwards better known as Col. D'Arcy Boulton, had married Miss Heath, and his influence had much to do in persuading those large moneyed men to cast in their lot with the people of Cobourg. They purchased the whole of township lot No. 20, which extends from the "Court House," now the Counties' jail, to the waters of Lake Ontario, and employed Mr. George Saunders, C. E., to survey it into town lots, with regular streets and highways, they having the intention of making a large addition to the homes and population of the village. In that, however, they were only partially successful.

✦ Mills and Manufactories ✦

Captain Walter Boswell, R. N.,—an early pioneer—settled a short distance east of the village limits, and put up a tannery and a distillery near his residence. These two manufactories were under the management of Captain Boswell's son, John Crease Boswell, who later became their proprietor, and they gave employment to quite a number of operatives.

Mr. — Boulter also, at a latter date, erected a tannery, and for some years carried on the manufacture of leather on a large scale. This tannery was situate on the creek, on the north side of King street, at the east end of the town, and immediately opposite "Sidbrook," formerly the residence of the late Maj. David Campbell.

Far back in the early days Josias White built a flouring and grist mill in the locality still known as "White's Mills," which divided the honors of that neighborhood (the centre north of the town) with "Hull's Corners," so called after E. C. Hull, who in the early days kept a hotel there, and was well known throughout the country as a Division Court bailiff and auctioneer.

The next advance in material progress was marked by Norman George Ham, already mentioned, who in the early 20's erected a large flouring and grist mill, with a substantial dam and reservoir to hold the necessary water power, immediately north of King street, on the stream long known as the "Factory Creek."

About 1840, Mr. Ebenezer Perry, already mentioned, erected a large mercantile flowering mill on north Ontario street, with

a well dammed pond of water equal to a small lake, to furnish the power. Mr. Perry was a very enterprising and pushing business man, and in connection with his extensive milling concern carried on a large general store and pork-packing house in the premises already mentioned as having been built by him on the south side of King street near Division. The value of such a milling enterprise to the farmers of those days in affording them a ready and convenient market for their wheat, cannot be fully appreciated by the younger people amongst us today. They may, however, get some idea of it when they are told that at a time which to some of us does not seem so very far distant, the machinery of that mill ground wheat which grew in the vicinity of Peterborough, and which the farmers drew down, attracted by the better prices offered by Perry & Son ; for associated with Mr. Perry was his son George, whom most of our people remember as Collector of Customs for the Port of Cobourg.

The first distillery in Cobourg was equipped and operated by Benjamin Throop—father of the well-known barrister Mr. Robt. Throop, who practiced here in the 40's and early 50's. The distillery was situate on First St., where Henderson's planing mill now stands, and was managed for Mr. Throop by one John Hopper. Mr. Benjamin Throop also erected and carried on business in the brick building which still stands at the southwest corner of King and Division streets, and which is now known as the "Queen's Hotel" carried on by Mr. George Plunkett. In the same locality as Throop's distillery John Hopper's brother carried on a brewery in the early days of the settlement.

Mr. James Calcutt, with his family, came here from Ireland in 1830, and having carried on an extensive business as a mas-

SAM. CLARKE, M.L.A.
Mayor, 1887-88-89-90

WM. BAILLIE
Mayor, 1891-92

RICHARD WILSON
Mayor, 1893-94-95

L. C. S. HUYCKE, K.C.
Mayor, 1899-1900-01-02

ter brewer and distiller in the old land, he arranged to carry on a like business here ; and having purchased the property south of Orr street, he erected thereon a large distillery and an equally large brewery, with malt house, kiln and mill, business office and fine residence. These manufactories for many years afforded good employment to a large staff of operatives and a convenient market for the course grains raised in the surrounding country. These works subsequently passed into the hands of Mr. Henry Mackechnie, brother of Stuart Mackechnie, and later to McPherson, Gordon & Co., by whom they were operated up to a recent date and burned down Jan. 4th, 1899.

In 1844 Captain Patrick Wallace built a very fine distillery, with other necessary buildings, at the west end of the dam of Norman George Ham's mill pond, on the north side of King street, opposite the woollen mill. This enterprise flourished for several years, gin, brandy and whiskey being all manufactured there, but the Captain, being well up in years, grew tired of business, retired from active life, and returned to Scotland where he ended his days.

Another distillery was operated by one Bentley, and a pail and tub factory by one Hartwell, near the Court House, on the north side of Elgin street where there was a fine dam and a large body of water to supply power for these two factories. The few old settlers who still remain with us will remember Bentley's distillery and Hartwell's pail, tub and churn factory at the east end of the dam. So, in those early times we had four distilleries and two breweries in town, and another distillery (Boswell's) just outside the corporation. Now we have not either a distillery or brewery. In these notes there has been much reference to distilleries; some will say that too much

prominence has been given to them and that they were not a creditable form of manufactory. It must be borne in mind, however, that we are dealing with things as we find them. A great deal of capital and labor and business energy were thrown into those enterprises. In those days the consumption of strong waters was not looked upon as it is now. Spirits were regarded as necessary to health and vigor, and they were partaken of by the best in all denominations of Christians. The local distillery was far from being an unmixed evil. Liquor would be purchased and drank, even though it had to be brought from a distance, and the production of it on the spot not only gave employment to large numbers, but it opened up a convenient market for coarse grains and enabled many a farmer to weather through bad years.

In the middle 40's Mr. Stuart E. Mackechnie, afterwards a mayor of Cobourg, took what was then a very ambitious step, by erecting on Tremaine street, just south of King street, on the stream now known as the "Factory Creek," an extensive woollen mill and cloth factory which still remains in an enlarged and very much improved form, though the present building is one storey lower than the original one was. The better to supply the necessary material, he opened up a brick-yard on Tremaine street, and there manufactured the bricks used in the structure. The contractor for the work was Mr. James Burnet. an older member of the Burnet family. When the factory was completed, Mr. Mackechnie brought in Mr. Edward Sheldon Winans from the United States to superintend the working of the mill, and Mr. Winans brought skilled operatives with him to give the enterprise a fair start on the way to success. All hopes in that way were fully realized, for the cloth turned out was exceptionally good and refined, and found ready market in

Montreal and Toronto, as well as here at home. Through Mr. Mackechnie's untimely death in the early 50's Cobourg lost the benefit of his enterprising personality. The business then passed into the hands of Mr. Winans, and he carried it on for several years with varying success. In 1858 it was acquired and operated by Alexander Fraser & Co. Mr. Fraser had carried on a large dry-goods business in the town, was the first representative of West Northumberland in the Legislature of Ontario, and subsequently became Deputy Receiver-General of the Dominion at Toronto. In later years this well-known "Ontario Woollen Mills" venture has been carried on by John Routh & Co., by Mr. Wm. Rosamond, and is now a remunerative concern in the hands of Mr. John Dick, who employs about 200 hands.

Mr. Nathaniel Horton, builder of the schooner "Northumberland," and father of our respected townswoman, Mrs. P. J. Lightburne, carried on for a very long time a very profitable tanning business on Buck street; and in later years a tannery was operated on Covert street by A. S. Kennedy & Son, boot and shoe dealers.

In 1856, Mr. John Sinclair Wallace, son of Capt. P. Wallace, built a large distillery on William street, not far from the Court House bridge, and for several years carried on an extensive distilling business there. In connection with it were extensive cattle sheds and pig pens where the refuse was turned to account by feeding animals for the market. Through incompetent management this business failed, but the buildings, after passing through a chequered existence of prosperity and adversity, still remain, not, however, as the "Ontario Distillery," but as the "Cobourg Matting and Mat Factory," the successor of the "Norval Factory," which some of our people remember

but which had only a short run in one of the buildings.

The fact that great things frequently spring from small was never better exemplified than it has been in the "Crossen Car Works." In 1870 the late Mr. James Crossen, one of the most honest minded, hard working and successful of the men whose citizenship has blessed and benefitted Cobourg, was carrying on a small, and what might be called "a struggling" business in the old "Helm Foundry," on College street, opposite Swayne street, the spot on which St. Peter's Church School House now stands, when an order for a dozen "dumping cars" came to him from our late respected townsman, Mr. John Henry Dumble, then Managing Director of the Cobourg and Peterborough Railway. So well did Mr. Crossen fill that order, and so profitable did he find it, he was encouraged to accept other orders which soon followed—orders for flat cars, orders for box cars, and, finally, a passenger car department was added—and soon Cobourg witnessed the fact—a pleasureable fact to all our citizens —that out of the Crossen works was turned rolling stock, from the rough but serviceable freight truck to the palace on wheels, unsurpassed by the product of any other manufactory in America. It is true that these works, like most industries, have had their ups and downs; there have been times of great prosperity when everything was booming, and when all hands had to work long hours, in order to fill pressing orders; and there have been seasons of depression when the shops had practically to shut down for a short period, but Mr. Crossen, with the caution and forethought which were two of his marked characteristics, had his business so arranged that the Car Works never failed, and he kept his sails always trimmed for the favourable returning breeze which his reputation as a conscientious, painstaking and thoroughly reliable workman and contractor was sure to draw to

LT COL LAVANCE GRAVELLY
Mayor [illegible]

JOHN D HAYDEN
Mayor, [illegible]

MAJOR W H LLOYD
Mayor [illegible]

him and his venture. These works are now carried on by Mr. Crossen's estate, under the management of his son, Mr. William J. Crossen; and success still marks the business. The operatives in the several departments number from 150 to 350, according as the demands of the trade are brisk or dull; the pay roll is at all times a respectable one; and the value of this industry to Cobourg has been incalculable. Nor has the benefit been to Cobourg alone; the surrounding country also has shared in the advantages derived from this establishment, not only in having the enlarged market which it created for ordinary farm produce, but in the local demand which it made for timber suited to car construction. Ready sale and a high price have been found for many a tree which but for Mr. Crossen might have gone to the cordwood pile, and many a toiling countryman has returned home from town with his pockets heavier and his heart lighter by reason of James Crossen's enterprise.

✦ ✦ Hotels ✦ ✦

Up to 1845 Cobourg did not possess what might be called high class hotel accommodation. Relatively to other towns and places outside the cities, little, if any, fault could be found with our old "burg" in that regard, for, besides, other very comfortable inns and taverns, we had then such well-appointed and respectable hostelries as the old "Albion" and the old "North American," names which lived long in the memories of the "ancient travellers in these parts." Yet, Cobourg had become of so much importance, lying as it does, nearly midway between Kingston and Toronto, and being at that time the gateway and entrepot as it were for a vast back country then rapidly filling

up, it was felt that something better in the hotel line should be provided, and a movement to that end was set on foot, the leading spirit in which was our old friend, Mr. William Weller. The result of that movement was the formation of a company for the purpose of establishing a first class hotel for the accommodation of the public, and to encourage travellers and transient visitors to enjoy the hospitality, beauty and natural advantages of Cobourg and its immediate vicinity. The building, furnishing and equipping of the "Globe" was the outcome of this commendable enterprise. In its day nothing between Kingston and Toronto could aspire to equal that famous hotel, in its architecture, dimensions, furniture and general comfort. During its comparatively short existence it had as managers the well-known hosts and caterers, Robert Sinclair, Terence Duignan and Edward Pauwels, and each in his turn made the "Globe" a veritable home of brightness and good cheer to many a weary wayfarer in his long journey through the country. Unfortunately, and greatly to the regret of the community, this "pride of Cobourg" was destroyed by a fire which broke out on the morning of the 9th of April, 1864. The "Globe" stood on the northeast corner of King and McGill streets, the spot now occupied by the Hooey residence.

It was not very long, however, before this loss to the town was repaired through the enterprise and public spirit of her people. In 1872-3 another hotel project was set on foot, the prime mover in this case being Colonel William P. Chambliss. The Colonel was a native of Virginia, a graduate of West Point, and had been an officer in the United States army. Though his birthplace, his early associations, and possibly his predilections, were in a seceding State, he did not follow the "Commonwealth of Virginia" into rebellion, but remained true to, and fought

for, the Union cause during the great Civil War; and he came out of that conflict a battle-scarred hero with a brilliant reputation as a daring cavalry leader. The Colonel came here as the Managing Director of the Cobourg, Peterborough and Marmora Railway and Mining Company, a number of capitalists and iron masters of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, whom he represented, having acquired the Cobourg and Peterborough Railway and the extensive iron mines and works at Marmora in the County of Hastings. Having taken up his residence in Cobourg, Colonel Chambliss soon discerned its beauties and its great natural advantages as a summer home, and he conceived the idea of establishing a hotel which while providing for local needs, would be as well equipped and so attractive as to satisfy the tastes of the wealthy United States tourist and holiday seeker, and draw him to our town. In this movement the Colonel was ably seconded by the late Mr. Justice John Douglas Armour of the Supreme Court of Canada, who with his powerful influence, with his means, and, it must be added, with great self-sacrifice, contributed very largely to the success of this enterprise—an enterprise which again secured for Cobourg a hotel—"The Arlington"—which has no superior outside the large cities, and which has brought with it indirect advantages highly appreciated by all our townsfolk.

The initiative and public spirit of Colonel Chambliss and Mr. Armour would not, however, have brought such results had they not been supported by the citizens at large. The response to the proposition put forward by those two gentlemen was the formation of a company, the shareholders in which are too numerous to name, and so heartily was the matter entered into, the stock was at once subscribed, and $75,000 of it promptly paid up. The projectors threw their hearts into the scheme, and the Colonel

set to work and made the hotel known to his numerous friends throughout the United States, the result being not only the changing of the old "burg" into a summer resort, but the introduction of wealthy people who have purchased property here, and have built and beautified to an extent which was not even dreamed of, much less hoped for, before the erection of the "Arlington." And, as a further result of this "Arlington" enterprise our hotel accommodation generally has improved to so great an extent as to place Cobourg far ahead, in that respect, of other towns in the country, for we have now such houses as "Cedarmere," "The Columbian," "The Baltimore," "The Dunham House," "The British," and others, which though they do not aspire to be in the highest grade, yet, in order of merit, respectability and popularity are not easily surpassed.

✦ Harbour ✦

In the early times of the settlement there was, of course, no harbour or shelter for vessels at this point, and no wharf, the only means of landing passengers and goods was the jolly-boat sent to shore from the anchored schooner, and this continued down to a time as late as 1820, and probably later. In those days immigrants and their belongings destined for Cobourg and its vicinity were landed at the Carrying Place—at the head of the Bay of Quinte—and the remainder of the journey was done in waggons or on foot. Later on, however, probably in the 20's, a harbour company was formed, and it, aided by the Government, built a wharf of cribs out into the lake at the foot of Division street, and, in connection with it, put up a storehouse for the freight. That work was the formation of the present "East Pier." It can easily be understood, however, that the original structure, though quite imposing in its day, was very small

W. J. MAHER, Mayor, 1904.

when compared with the present one. It was very similar to the tiny landing places which we still see here and there along the shores of our back lakes for the accommodation of village committees. The site of the foundation crib of that first wharf would now be considered far inland, for an immense amount of filling in has been done since that time—the waters do not lave the shore where they once did. This constant filling in, the increase of trade, and the deeper draught of the modern vessel necessitated extensions of outwards into deep water, and so the "East Pier" is a vast structure relatively to what "our fathers" saw when they first landed at Cobourg. In the early 40's another pier was built for the Government and the company by a contractor named Joseph Metcalfe. That for many years was the "West Pier," and is now the "Centre Pier." Thus for the first time a harbour or basin was then made in which vessels had very fair shelter. When the place was incorporated as a town in 1850, it became the sole possessor of this harbour and all the rights and franchises connected with it, under an agreement by which it undertook to pay the Government £10,500 ($42,000) for its share. From that time and especially after the Peterborough Railway was built, there were earnest and persistent efforts on the part of the Town to make the harbour safe and commodious, for the exports of lumber and other products had grown to large proportions, filled the harbor with vessels, and caused commercial bustle and stir of which the present generation has but little or no conception. The task of making and preserving the harbour was, however, very great; every storm from the south and southwest brought with it a big filling in of sand; so, the constantly working town dredge, which so many of us remember, was insufficient to cope with the difficulty. The remedy which engineers suggested for this was the construction of another breakwater (or sand guard) farther to the

west and running out into deep water and well across the mouth of the old harbour. As it was of importance that Cobourg harbour should be made a veritable "harbor of refuge," the Government undertook this work, and ran out from the foot of Hibernia street, that magnificent mole—the "Langevin Pier"—so named after Sir Hector L. Langevin who was Minister of Public Works at the inception of the undertaking. This pier was completed with additions during the regime of the Mackenzie administration, 1874-5.

Though the "Gull Island Light House" is not within the limits of Cobourg, it will interest the reader to know that it was erected by the Government in 1838, the contractor being one Edward Hales.

✦ The Churches ✦

If the people of Cobourg have not been good, have not been led in the paths of truth and righteousness, the fault has not been with those who were sent to look after their spiritual welfare. From first to last Cobourg has been favored—in all its denominations—with God-fearing pastors who have laboured ably and earnestly for the good of their flocks. The first religious organization at the place which became Cobourg—the first at least of which we have any authentic record—was in connection with the Church of England. From a paper which the present Bishop of Toronto and the Reverend William Clark, of Toronto, jointly contributed to "Canada, an Encyclopædia," we learn that "in the year 1818 the parish of St. Peter's, Cobourg," was created by the appointment of the Reverend William Macaulay," and in the late Bishop Bethune's "Memoir of the Right Reverend John Strachan, D. D., LL.D., First Bishop

of Toronto," it is stated that in 1820 the only clergymen of the Church of England between Toronto and Belleville were one at Cobourg and one in the township of Cavan. At their inception those parishes were in the vast diocese of Quebec—the territory now represented by the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario,—the Bishop was the Right Reverend Jacob Mountain, and his See was at the city of Quebec. As a further proof to our younger people of the progress of this country in so short a time has been wonderful, it may not be amiss to state that in that year, 1820, there were only sixteen clergymen of the Church of England in Upper Canada, outside of the village of York, now the great city of Toronto. Mr. Macauley's congregation laid the foundation of their church building in the fall of 1820. It was placed where St. Peter's now stands, was a plain, unpretentious, wooden structure, but in due course was changed from wood to brick, was several times enlarged and remoddelled to suit the growth and improved tastes of the congregation, till it became what we see it today, an imposing and venerable pile.

In the same year—1820—Mr. Macaulay was appointed chaplain of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada, in succession to the Reverend John Strachan, who resigned the chaplaincy on being made a member of the same Council. Mr. Macauley filled the incumbency with great acceptance to the congregation till 1827. Then he was succeeded by the Rev. Alexander Neil Bethune. It would be impossible to say too much in praise of Mr. Bethune. He was an ideal Church of England clergyman; high minded; of lofty character; unobtrusive. Holding firmly to the tenets of his own Church, and contending earnestly for what he considered its rights, he yet was tolerant to a degree of the opinions and beliefs of others; he guided and controlled his congregation with a tact which was never at fault; his piety called forth the

deepest veneration from his people, and the highest respect and good-will from all other denominations in the community. His incumbency was a long and very useful one, and his influence for good in the town and surrounding country was such as even the present generation should be thankful for. Not only was Mr. Bethune a good man—he had natural abilities of a high order and was a ripe scholar. Both as a school-boy and as a student of Divinity he had been under the tutelage of the Reverend Mr. Strachan, was the life-long friend and admirer of that eminent divine, was one of his most valuable and trusted assistants in his great work of building up the church in Upper Canada, was elected his Episcopal Coadjutor in 1866, when years and toil had robbed the aged Bishop of his strength and energy, and on his death in the following year succeeded him in the Bishopric.

"The Church" newspaper was instituted in May, 1837, in the interests of the Church of England, and for many years Mr. Bethune was its editor, and as such he was the stout and able, though temperate and courteous, champion for his church in the politico-religious controversy which in the later 30's and in the 40's raged around the great question of the Clergy Reserves.

In November, 1841, Mr. Bethune was appointed Professor of Theology in the Diocese of Toronto, and from that time till the establishing of Trinity College, eleven years afterwards, he conducted the Diocesan Theological College at Cobourg.

On his elevation to the Bishopric in 1866 Mr. Bethune was succeeded in the rectorship by his son-in-law, the Rev. Walter Stennett, who had been for some years previously the Head Master of Upper Canada College. On Mr. Stennet's death in 1889, the present incumbent, Rev. Albert W. Spragge, M. A., now a canon in the Church, was appointed in his stead.

MRS. NANCY CRAWFORD
Chicago's Benefactress

C. LEWIS,
Chairman Finance Committee, 1893

B. McALLISTER,
Chairman Streets Committee, [illegible]

D. McALLISTER,
Chicago's Hero, [illegible]

The next place of worship erected within the village was a large two-storey chapel at Hull's Corners on the site where now stands the Mortuary Chapel in the old Methodist burying ground. There the Methodist people of the village and neighborhood worshipped, in fact of the whole district, for some years, but later Sheriff Spencer [illegible] the ground in the heart of the village where was built at the [illegible] of Division and Chapel streets the wooden [illegible] ious design and quite puritan simplicity [illegible] where for many years the Methodist [illegible] grew and prospered. This chapel was built during the ministry of the Revs. David Breckenridge and [illegible] in 1825. It was twice enlarged, and the new brick structure was built during the ministry of Rev. George Sa[illegible] who labored here in 1851-2-3. This building was enlarged by the addition of thirty feet on the east end and by commodious side galleries. This was accomplished during the ministry of the Rev. Wm. H Poole. After the union of the several branches of Methodist and the Bible Christian Churches this building was found to be inadequate and was again enlarged to meet the needs of the day. This was carried to successful completion during the ministry of the Rev. D. N. McCamus who was succeeded by the Rev. Dr. Sanderson and the Rev. H. E. Lewis.

The church here has been favouredby many men of note, such as the Revs. Egerton Ryerson, Ephriam Evans, John C. Davidson, Geo. Poole, John Carrol, John Douse, John Beatty, E. Ryerson, Wm. McCullagh, Jonathan Scott, John Bredin, W. H. Poole, Jas. H. Bishop, Wm. Pollard, Wm. Briggs, Dr. Jeffers, S. S. Nelles, F. H. Wallace, T. W. Jeffrey, Wm. Williams, Jas. Allen, E. H. Coyle and Jas. Kines.

The present edifice presents a very imposing appearance. The interior being modernized throughout. The several memorial windows of stained glass were placed in memory of Dr Beatty, James Crossen, Dr. Nelles, Prof. Wilson and Prof. Kingston.

The chancel is occupied by the choir and organ, a very superior instrument. In connection with the church is a large brick Sunday School costing $8000, and the parsonage which cost $3000.

In 1833, the Methodist body erected Victoria College. The grounds were acquired from Sheriff Spencer, who built and resided in what is now the Daintry homestead. The college buildings were completed and the grounds put into proper shape before the winter of 1833-4 set in. "Faraday Hall," a very fine building, was erected as an addition to the college in 1876. In 1878 the ruling powers of the college conspired to remove the university of Victoria College to a more attractive centre of population, and the agitation was therefore commenced to remove it to Toronto. It had for some years acquired the status of an independent university, but now the party in the body which advocated removal were willing to surrender the rights of their university and become only a college in affiliation with the Toronto University. The party who stood for more grandeur and prominence in a large city prevailed, and the right spot to educate and prepare students for a more earnest Christian life was forsaken for the contaminations and allurements of city life. Victoria University is now a Provincial Asylum for females of unsound mind.

St. Andrew's Old Kirk on William street was built in 1833, and remained the place for worship of the Presbyterian body up to 1866, when the erection of the present handsome and commodious edifice on King street was commenced. St. Andrew's new church is quite an addition to the wealth and beauty of the west end of the town, but it was a wanton act of desecration to destroy and tear down the last remnant of the grand old landmark on William street.

Few now left will remember that the first pastor of the Presbyterian Church located in Cobourg was the Rev. Mr. Murdock, who died shortly after coming here. He was followed by Rev. Thos. Alexander, Rev. Donald McLeod, Rev. John Laing, Rev. Mr. Douglas, Rev. Mr. Ballantine, Rev. Mr. McCrea, Rev. John Hay and Rev. Mr. Beattie.

Rev. Wm. Hayden, father of our respected townsman, John Hayden, came here in 1833, and was the first Congregational minister to settle in Cobourg. In 1835 he superintended the building of the first church of his denomination erected in Cobourg on the same site where the handsome little new church now stands. The old edifice was a frame structure, with a brick dwelling in the rear for the resident pastor. Among his many successors we might mention the names of Rev. Mr. Snell, Rev. Hugh Pedley, Rev. M. A. Shaver and Rev. A. Morton.

There was an Episcopal Methodist Church on James street, a frame structure, but since the merging of this denomination with the Canada Methodist body, it has been remoddelled and refitted into "The Home" for the aged and helpless. There was a Bible Christian Church on Orange street, also a frame structure in the first instance, the first resident pastor being Rev. Mr. Eynon. This body some years later, in 1854, erected a commodious brick church on James street, a little east of spring street, and continued to worship in the new edifice until the amalgamation of this denomination was effected with the Canada Methodist Church. The old building on Orange street has been changed into a dwelling and the newer building on James has been taken down and entirely removed.

The Rev. Alex. F. Kernan was the first Catholic priest assigned to the Mission of Cobourg, and he arrived here during

the early days of the month of November, 1837. He found no Catholic Church in Cobourg. As a matter of fact there was no Catholic Church between Belleville and Toronto when Father Kernan came here, except a frame church in Port Hope which had never been fully completed internally, and which in after years was destroyed by fire. It was built on the same site now occupied by the handsome brick church and priest's residence on the prominent hill in the western portion of our neighboring town. Father Kernan found not more than a dozen faithful members of the church here, with a few more in the rural country round about. He was not large in stature, but he was all life and energy, and was not long in making warm friends amongst all religious persuasions as well as amongst his own. In 1838 he started a movement with the co-operation of a few of his own little congregation to build a church, in which he was encouraged by the kindly good wishes as well as the more substantial assistance of many of the gentlemen of other persuasions of the village. During the ensuing winter Wm. Solomon, who owned what was known in thoes days as "Solomon's Pine Woods," gave the good priest liberty to go into his woods and cut down, prepare and take away all the timber required for the erection of the church. It stands to the credit of the people here in those days — to their generosity and broad-christian spirit—that during the winter of 1838-9, men of all denominations volunteered and gave their assistance in getting out and conveying to the site for the church on William street all the timbers necessary for its erection. The work of building the church, which was 65 by 45 feet, was given to Messrs. Duffins and Constantine, and in 1840 it was fully completed in all its parts, and was a very pretty church edifice, with handsome tower, belfry and spire, and painted artistically within and without, a bell being added thereto the following year. The

ground upon which the handsome little church was erected was donated by Hon. Henry Ruttan and Hon. Zaccheus Burnham, each giving one half of the land, whilst Mr. Solomon gave the timber, all three being dissenting brethren. His Lordship Bishop Ganlan, of Kingston, with much pomp and circumstance, and amid rejoicing of the small congregation, solemnly blessed and dedicated the church to the patronage of St. Polycarp. It is but matter of history of our town to state that the Catholic congregation gathered within the walls of their first church at its consecration was even comparatively smaller than the little church itself, not being over fifty souls. But mark you, ten years later the church was quite inadequate to accommodate the adherents of the church. In those early days missionary priests used to pass through the settlements to and from Toronto or Kingston on horseback and remain for a day or two where they found members of the church who might need their ministrations. The priest at Peterborough used to come down occasionaily, and alternately to Port Hope or this village, and held services in any convenient place that could be obtained. Father Kernan's mission, therefore, extended from Trenton to Pickering (Whitby), so that he could not remain here every Sunday. On the 10th July, 1842, he left here for Port Hope and Whitby, and on the 13th of July he left Whitby to go to Toronto on some church business with Bishop Power, then Catholic Bishop of Toronto. He had a fractious horse, hard to manage, and an old style two wheeled gig, with leather springs, and when approaching the "Rouge Hill" his horse became unmanageable and meeting a team of horses with a load of lumber his gig collided with the wheels of the heavy waggon, and he was thrown violently from his gig, lighting upon his head on a stone by the roadside. He lived, but was unconscious, to be carried back to Gates' Tavern, where he died that same night. His body was

taken to Toronto and buried. News was slow of transmission in those days, but when his parishoners here heard the sad news a few days afterwards, Andrew McAllister, a good old friend, at once proceeded to Toronto for the purpose of bringing the remains of the priest, who was so dear to the Catholics of Cobourg, back to his own parish that they might find a resting place beside his own dear little church. Bishop Power was much against this, but Mr. McAllister was determined, and insisted that he would not leave without them, and at length the Bishop yielded so far as to say that if the Mayor of Toronto would give his permit he would then withdraw his objection. Mayor Robinson objected that the weather was warm and the priest's body had been in the grave two or three days and that it would be dangerous to public health to disinter it, but assurances being given that all necessary precautions would be taken, he at length consented to the removal. The remains were then removed and placed in a tightly sealed casket and taken on board the steamer Princess Royal, one of the Royal Mail line of steamers plying between Toronto and Kingston. Mr. McAllister arrived with his precious charge in Cobourg that same evening at 7.30 o'clock, and the remains of the dearly beloved priest were solemnly conveyed to his own church, amidst the heartfelt sorrowing of his loving little flock, as well as that of the people generally.

During the interim until another priest was placed in charge of the mission, good Friar Wilson remained with the Catholic congregation. In the second week of August the Rev. William Dolan arrived here to take charge. He remained here till September, 1844, during his stay having built the presbytery, and made some other necessary improvements. He was succeeded by Rev. Michael Timlin, who was the parish priest here for 33

years. In 1850-'51 it became a necessity to have more church accommodation, and a large addition to the church was built of brick, with a view of completing this addition in the near future into a large and entirely new edifice, 65 by 110 feet. In July, 1854, the church was burned down, nothing being left but the brickwork addition, which was found to be quite intact, and the new church was then completed and ready for use by the Christmas following. In 1876, Rev. Michael Larkin was sent here as assistant to Father Timlin, who was growing very feeble and nearing his rest. On the 23rd of May, 1877, the good old priest passed away after thirty-three years of faithful ministrations in the then extensive parish of which Cobourg was the centre. Father Larkin remained in charge until June, 1879, when he was superseded by the present pastor, Rev. E. H. Murray, who has effected many wonderful changes during his incumbency. A new and beautiful church, a presbytery, and a convent school, all on the same plot of ground, and all free from debt, is the boast of the Catholic people of Cobourg.

The Baptist denomination was not strong enough in the early days to have a church of their own in Cobourg, consequently many of them worshipped with the Bible Christians until they joined with the religious body known as the Disciples of Christ and erected a small church on University Avenue where the residence of William Pomeroy now stands. Mr. Pomeroy was a leading member. This little church was afterwards removed to William street, and was finally sold to Mr. John Routh who turned it to secular uses. The next move made by the Baptists was the building of a commodious edifice on the corner of John street and University Avenue. The membership having suffered serious diminution owing to removals, this church was closed and the building was for some years used by the Collegiate Institute.

It is now nearly twenty years since this denomination built a neat little church on the corner of Globe Lane and King street. This has been recently sold and turned into a dwelling and the former west end Methodist Church. which was originally built by the Episcopal Methodist body was bought by the Baptists and there they are now comfortably established.

✦ Shipbuilding ✦

One industry that flourished periodically during the early history of Cobourg was that of shipbuilding. The tight little steamer Cobourg which was one of the earliest to carry passengers and freight on Lake Ontario was built here. That staunch schooner Northumberland was also built here by N. Horton, as was also the Hannah Butler built by William Butler. The most notably construction in marine achitecture built here was the Countess of Dufferin, designed by Capt. A. Cuthbert, built by Capt. Charles Gifford, to compete for the America's Cup, known also as the Queen's Cup at New York. Cobourg was also a regular port of call for the steamers of the early days, the William the 4th, and the Traveller. These were succeeded by the Bethune line of Royal Mail steamers, viz: City of Toronto, Princess Royal, City of Kingston and Union, all engaged in the coasting trade. The Traveller used to run across to Rochester, as also did the America, the Admiral, the Maple Leaf, the Highlander, the Rochester, the Empress, the Rothsay Castle, the Corinthian, and the Norseman, now the North King.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, 1861, the steamer Maple Leaf was purchased by the United States Government for use as a transport, the price paid being $250,000. Shortly after she was blown up on the James River, near Washington.

✦ Noteworthy Events ✦

Several of the most noteworthy events in the history of Cobourg may now be recorded. The construction of the Cobourg, and Peterborough Railway ; the completion of the Grand Trunk Railway through Cobourg ; the building of the Town Hall ; the the visit of His Royal Highness, Edward Prince of Wales, now the Empire's beloved Sovereign and the visit of the Marquis of Lorne and Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise. The ceremony of turning the first sod on the C. & P. Railway took place on the 7th of February, 1853, by the Lady Mayoress, Mrs. S. E. Mackechnie. There was a grand celebration on that occasion. The Fire Brigade, the fraternal and national societies and other public bodies formed a gay and imposing procession which was organized at the Market Square and marched to the commons where now stands the lower car shops of the Crossen works. Addresses were delivered to the immense assemblage of citizens present by Mayor Mackechnie, Mr. Zimmerman, the contractor, and leading citizens.

The road was completed and opened to traffic as far as Harwood in 1854, and to Peterborough in 1855. It will be useless to enlarge upon the failure of this enterprise. The bridging of Rice Lake proved a costly blunder from which the enterprise never recovered.

The Grand Trunk Railway was completed through Cobourg from Montreal to Toronto in 1856, and on the 7th of November in that year the first regular passenger train passed through here at 8 o'clock, a. m., for Toronto.

The laying of the corner stone of the new Town Hall took place with much pomp and circumstance on Thursday, the 18th

of December, 1856. The ceremonies were conducted by the Masonic body. The work of construction occupied three years and was done under the contract of the Burnet Brothers. The cost when completed was $110,000 in round figures. The architect was Kivers Tully.

The Opera House, or Victoria Hall as it is more correctly called, on the second floor of the main building, had just been completed, and was handsomely painted, and fitted up for the occasion of the Prince of Wales visit, as a grand ball had been arranged with which the Prince was to open this beautiful hall, named Victoria Hall in honor of his mother, our late beloved Queen. The steamer Kingston appeared off our harbor near 9 o'clock on the evening of the 6th of September, 1860, having on board the Prince of Wales and all his suite. His own chroniclers state that he received a welcome here such as he can never forget. The beach was crowded to give the Prince a demonstrative welcome, and when, therefore, the steamer came up to the wharf, aye, and long before, the enthusiasm displayed was intense. The whole town was brilliantly illuminated, and presented one of the finest effects ever witnessed. Rockets were set off, a royal salute fired, and a guard of honour of the Volunteer Rifles presented arms as His Royal Highness landed. His carriage was drawn by a newly organized society composed of the gentlemen of Cobourg, called "Native Canadians," with silver maple leaves on their breasts, who carried lighted torches, and escorted by the national societies, made an imposing procession, the volunteer cavalry and rifles, and by the people generally, who cheered and hurrahed until they were hoarse. The Prince and his suite were taken through the lighted streets to the Town Hall which was gorgeously illuminated. Here His Royal Highness received the several addresses from

the Mayor, Victoria College, the magistrates, Brighton Council, &c., &c., and gave replies ; and immediately after entered the building and opened the ball at eleven o'clock, dancing until broad daylight. The following are the names of the fortunate ladies he danced with, fifteen in all :—Miss Beatty, daughter of the then Mayor, now Mrs. John Daintry ; Miss Ewart, Mrs. Reid, Miss Fortune, Miss Pringle, Hon. Mrs. Sidney Smith, Miss Daintry, Miss Powell, of Niagara ; Miss Burnham, Miss Bennett, Mrs. Cubitt, Miss Hall, Miss M. Boswell, Miss Grover, Miss Barron. After the ball His Royal Highness and suite, with Governor General and the other gentlemen, retired to the residence of the Hon. Sidney Smith (then Postmaster-General), and after a slight repose, left Cobourg on the morning of the 7th by railway for Peterborough, amidst the most hearty demonstrations of loyalty and joy.

In 1869 the Duke of Connaught honoured the good old town with a call when passing through on the G. T. R., when all the honours the people could make manifest were given him. An address was presented by Mayor Kerr, which was graciously replied to.

In 1879, the then Governor-General, the Marquis of Lorne, accompanied by Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, visited Cobourg. This was on the 20th of September. Major Geo. Guillet was then Mayor and received the distinguished guests who were drawn to Victoria Hall, where a spacious platform had been erected on which a handsome dais was raised for the vice-royal guests. A guard of honour was drawn up in front under command of Col. J. Vance Graveley. The day was fine, the concourse of people from town and country was immense and enthusiastic, while the decorations were tasteful, varied and

manifold. After the town address had been read and presented by the Mayor, the Counties' Council, the Senate of Victoria College, the fraternal and national societies presented addresses, all of which were graciously received and replied to. A drive through the principel streets completed the programme for the few hours allotted to Cobourg in the progress His Excellency and her Royal Highness were making through the Province of Ontario.

In 1883 the Marquis of Lorne again visited this town, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Princess Louise and Prince George. They reviewed the troops then in Brigade camp north of the town and received and duly replied to a loyal address presented by Mayor Col. Graveley. Their stay was very brief, but all the honors possible in so short and informal a visit were bestowed.

✦ Newspapers ✦

The question of who published the first newspaper in this place and the date thereof, has not been satisfactorily authenticated. Mr. Radcliffe, father-in-law of Judge Boswell, published a small newspaper which he named the Reformer, and Sammy Hart published a little sheet which he called the Weevil. Anything further with regard to those publications cannot be ascertained. Sammy Hart's printing office was situated on George street, east side, opposite Orange street, and the Newcastle District Gazette, was issued from the same office up to 1835. R. D. Chatterton was an early settler, who came here from England, and had been engaged in the publishing business there. He commenced the publication of the Star in 1831, and continued to be its editor and publisher until Henry Covert resigned the office of

Clerk of the County Court and Surrogate Court, to which Mr. Chatterton was appointed. Mr. Chatterton had acquired the plant and rights of the Newcastle District Gazette, which he amalgamated with the Star, hence came the Cobourg Star and Newcastle District Gazette. When Mr. Chatterton received his appointment as above stated, Goodeve & Corrigal became the proprietors, nominally at least, of the printing office and rights in the Star and Gazette, which was shortly afterwards purchased by H. J. Ruttan, and for some years afterwards conducted by that gentleman as editor and publisher. In the olden time the Star office was situated in rear of Clark's store on Division street, where S. S. Howell's insurance office now is. Goodeve & Corrigal had it removed near their store over where Bowen's barber shop now is. Mr. Oliphant commenced the publication of the Reformer about 1846, and James McCarroll was for some years editor of that paper, which, as its name indicates, was the organ of the Reform party in this town. In 1847, Prof. W. Kingston established the Provincialist, an independent journal in politics and religion. The Provincialist office was situated over where the Dominion Bank is now, and the Reformer office in McCarthy's terrace on Division street. The Provincialist, though a fine paper and ably conducted, had but a short life, and the Reformer did not long survive it. About this time the Church, the organ of the Church of England, was printed and published here, the office being in the building known as the Columbian Hotel. In 1853 Anson N. Striker was induced to remove his printing office and paper, the Picton Sun, to Cobourg, and thus we had the Cobourg Sun, the organ of the Liberal party here as it had been in Picton. Some years afterwards the Sun office and good will was purchased by Thomas McNaughton, in whose hands it lost its standing, dwindled down to nothing and passed out of existence. The Star office and good-will had been acquired by

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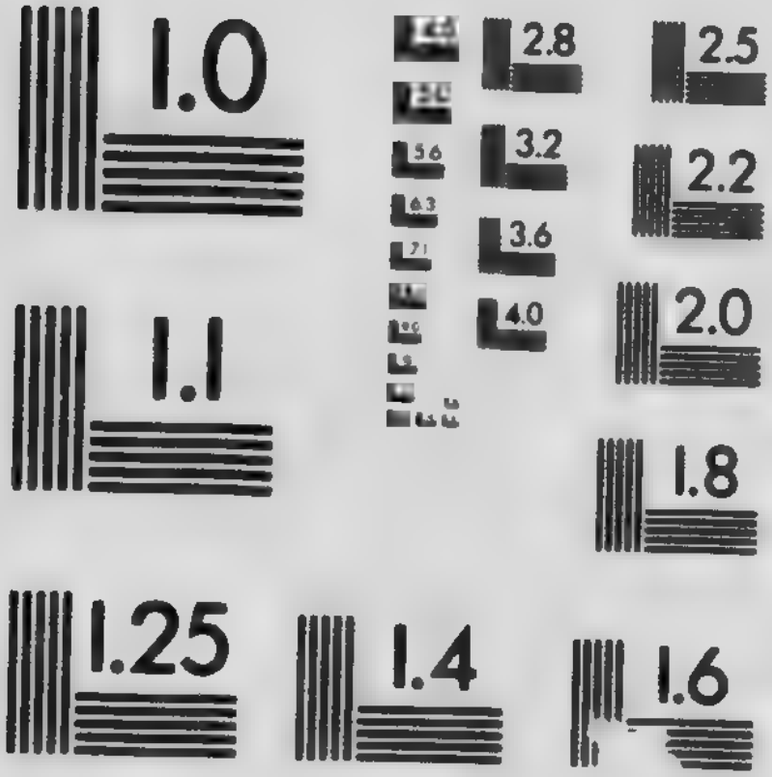

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Clench & Floyd, who carried on the business for some years, Mr. Clench retiring from the firm about 1865. W. H. Floyd became then the sole proprietor. In May, 1861, D. McAllister established the Cobourg Sentinel, and continued its publisher and proprietor up to the 30th of November, 1878, when a syndicate purchased the plant and good-will from Mr. McAllister, and having also purchased the Star office, amalgamated the Sentinel and Star as one office and one newspaper, and is now the property of Mr. Isaac Wilson. In 1863 Mr. Henry Hough established the Cobourg World, which is now published by Mr. T. B. Lapp. The Observer, organ of the Bible Christian body, was also published here for a time during the 60's. In 1890, Messrs. J. H. Floyd and Harry McGuire commenced the publication of The Saturday Morning Post, a journal independent in politics, which still continues a successful career as a live newspaper.

✦ Men of Note ✦

Cobourg has been the birthplace as well as the temporary and adopted home of many of the most distinguished men in Canadian history. The late Sir John A. Macdonald, our greatest statesman, whose genius and foresight built up Canada and left this Dominion as it is today, and Chief Justice Draper, one of the greatest ornaments of the Canadian Bench, both resided in Cobourg, and for a time studied law in the law office of the Hon. Senator George S. Boulton. None has yet surpassed the late Chief Justice Thomas Moss as an able jurist, and as a just and impartial judge, and he was born and brought up in Cobourg; and his brother, the present Chief Justice Charles Moss, also born in Cobourg, occupies a high place in the esteem and confidence of all classes in Canada.

Thomas Webster, one of our earliest settlers, and father of our respected townsman, J. T. Webster, was in need of a residential house in the village, and a stonemason was brought up from Kingston to perform the work, and that house is the stone structure on Green street, opposite Col. Cornell's residence, now owned by Judge Clark, and the man who built it was he who afterwards became the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, premier of Canada.

Cobourg can claim for West Northumberland and herself the honor of having in the past representatives in Parliament and in the Government of Canada men of national importance, the Hon. Sidney Smith having been Postmaster-General in 1857 and for several years afterwards. The Hon. James Cockburn was Solicitor-General in Sir John Macdonald's Cabinet, and was afterwards Canada's First Commoner in the first Parliament of the Dominion in 1867, being first Speaker of the House of Commons. And at one time Cobourg had no less than four Senators and a Minister of the Crown from amongst her prominent citizens to represent West Northumberland in the Commons and Senate of our country. It is not strange, therefore, that in those bygone days that West Northumberland was looked upon as the "banner Riding of Ontario."

Sir John Franklin, the unfortunate arctic navigator, went on an exploring expedition from Montreal in 1839, going up through the Ottawa River over the "height of land" to Hudson's Bay, and westerly through the great northwest of Canada to Lake Superior, and from thence through the chain of lakes back to Montreal, on his way stopping at Cobourg, making his camp at the mouth of the Factory Creek on a Saturday evening and remaining there until the Monday morning following. His expedition consisted of nine or ten canoes manned by Indians

and French Canadian voyageurs. Some of our oldest citizens say they remember having visited Sir John Franklin's camp here.

In the fall of 1855, Charles Dickens, the celebrated novelist, during his tour of America, visited Cobourg, among other places, and on his return home to England, wrote a very flattering notice of our town, referring to the large steamers at the wharf taking on flour and other merchandize.

✦ Queen Victoria's Coronation ✦

When William IV died in June, 1837, Queen Victoria ascended the throne. In those days it took considerable time for news to reach here from the old country, but when the news did reach here the death of the King was marked with the usual observances of mourning, followed on the accession of the Queen by much rejoicing. The coronation of the new Sovereign was deferred until the following year, so that the date of that auspicious event was known long beforehand, giving ample time to make arrangements for celebrating that important ceremony in Canada on the day named. And on that day and night, in 1838, now passed into history, the village of Cobourg excelled itself in demonstrations of joy and loyalty. The village was grandly illuminated, bonfires blazed in many places, copious supplies of liquor of all kinds were free to all. Music and dancing on the green by the light of the bonfires, and all class distinctions were for the time forgotten. The celebration night of Queen Victoria's coronation was one long to be remembered by the people of Cobourg.

In 1841 the sporting gentlemen of the district formed the "Newcastle District Turf Club," the leading spirits in this club being D'Arcy E. Boulton, Wm. Weller, Henry Covert, Jonathan Tremaine, John Crawford, of Port Hope, &c., &c. The race course was made just outside the town limits, opposite "Strathmore," the present residence of Judge Clark, and was exactly one mile round, forty feet wide, with stand-house, winning or starting stand, and saddling paddock, weighing room, &c. Those sportsmen coming from distant parts of this continent said it was one of the finest race courses they had ever seen. We then, and for some years continued to have Spring and Fall meetings. Horses of high repute from every section of the continent came here for those meetings, principally from Kentucky, Virginia, Long Island, New York, Quebec, Toronto, London, Kingston, Montreal, &c. The Queen's Plate (100 guineas) was on two or three occasions contested here, and of course was the great object coveted by the gentlemen of the turf. Many of the best horses brought here were purchased by some of our sporting gentlemen, and a vast improvement in the quality of our saddle and carriage horses has been the result. The races usually continued for four days, from 1 o'clock, p. m., on Tuesday, till 7 o'clock, p. m., on Friday. Many people from distant parts of the district came here for the races in covered carriages and waggons, and camped on the course during the races. Refreshment booths were erected all round the grand stand, and a rather exclusive refreshment room within it. At the last Queen's Plate that was contested here, however, a dispute arose over the decision of the judges, which resulted in the break up of the club, and the close of the course. For some years afterwards we had fall steeplechase races, but the sporting spirit gradually petered out until the last flickering spark seems to have died away amongst us.

✦ Our First Band ✦

The first brass band we have had in Cobourg was organized in 1842 by Prof. Thomas Kelk, an English gentleman, and who was accomplished in musical proficiency. His two sons, William and John, were expert cornet players and became members of the band. Prof. Kelk taught various branches of music and was fairly well patronized. At this time in our history there were in existence in the village three national societies—St. Andrew's, St. George's and St. Patrick's—formed for charitable and mutual kindly feeling amongst the memberships. These societies contributed to the support of the band which was then considered one of the best in the Province. Those three societies for several years turned out in procession on the three several national anniversaries of St. Patrick, St. George and St. Andrew, marched to the church named by the society, whose anniversary they were celebrating, where a sermon appropriate to the occasion was preached, and returned to the town hall square where addresses were delivered and the concourse dispersed to their homes. The Kelk family left Cobourg in 1845 and went to Toronto. The next noted brass band we had in Cobourg was organized in 1856 by Prof. H. F. Chalaupka, a Hungarian, or Magzar, and a gentleman of rare skill as a musician and teacher of music in its various branches. Prof. Chalaupka soon brought our new band up to a high state of efficiency, and in several band competitions in different localities in the Province our band never failed to come out first best.

✦ Early Fire Companies ✦

Up to the time when we adopted a system of waterworks, the village and town had a volunteer fire brigade, and the very best in the Dominion. The first fire engine was acquired about 1832 and a company was formed to take charge of it. At the organization of the company, it was named "Protector Company, No. 1." Peter McCallum was appointed Captain; Thos. Scott, Lieutenant; A. Secor, Foreman of the branch; Geo. Perry, Secretary; Wm. Young, caretaker. The engine house was in an old frame house on the west side of the market square. The next move for more fire protection was the formation of a Hook and Ladder Company, of which the first Captain was James McConnell, with Wm. Sisson and N. Norton as Lieutenants, Wm. Hitchins as secretary. In years afterwards the town acquired an improved fire engine, for which "the boys" formed a fine company of fire fighters, composed of the choice young men of the town. This company adopted the name of "Red Rover, No. 2," fire company, and selected as its motto, "While we live we'll crow." Roe Buck was Captain for some time, and was succeeded as captain by W. Jex and others. No. 1 and No. 2 Engine Companies were allowed sixty members each, the Hook and Ladder forty members. At one period in our town we had an engine company No. 3, located at the Ontario corners. There was also a "Cataract Company" of forty members, and a "Bucket Company" with indefinite numbers in its membership. But when the brigade turned out with full membership and uniformed there would be about 250 men in line, presenting a very fine appearance of smart able-bodied men. With our waterworks in perfect operation we are now equally as well protected from fire by a chief and ten men.

✦ Cobourg's Philanthropist ✦

Cobourg has had many public-spirited and generous citizens, but none so worthy of mention as the late Mrs. Crawford. Deceased was the youngest daughter of the late John McCarthy, one of the pioneer settlers of this country. She was born in the Township of Hamilton, on the 8th of October, 1820. When a child her parents removed to Cobourg where she was brought up. She was educated at a private ladies' school and also at Upper Canada Academy. About 1843, she married the late James Gilchrist, M. D., a prominent physician of Cobourg, who died in 1871, leaving her in very comfortable circumstances. She afterwards became the second wife of the late Angus Crawford, Esq., of the Township of Hamilton. After Mr. Crawford's death, which occurred about four years later, she took up her residence in Cobourg, where she died on the 26th of February, 1901. She was a member of the Episcopal Church and a good living Christian woman, of a charitable disposition and gave liberally of her means to help the poor and to sustain religious and benevolent institutions. She erected a public drinking fountain in front of Victoria Hall and illuminated the face of the town clock. In her will she left generous bequests to all the Churches, Sunday Schools and Missionary Societies of the town, and also a large sum to be invested for the benefit of the poor and to be kept a permanent fund for that purpose, to be known as the "Gilchrist Relief Fund." "Her works do follow her."

✦ Elementary Schools ✦

One hundred years ago the pioneer settlers who were "slashing" the forest on the site of the county town of Northumberland and Durham had no churches, ministers, physicians, schools, roads, or any of the great conveniences which make up modern life. There was little or no education in our sense of the term and those settlers who could neither read nor write outnumbered those who had received some slight rudimentary instruction.

In 1816 the Parliament of Upper Canada made the first provision for public education by appropriating £6000 to aid in paying teachers and buying books. But it was many years before the inhabitants generally could afford to give their children even the meagre advantages of the Grammar School system. The wealthier people from this district sent their children, both boys and girls, to seminaries in Toronto; while those who were in more moderate circumstances patronized the private schools which sprang up in every settlement.

Before 1830 a large frame building stood immediately south of the Division street Methodist Church. This was used as a school house, a church, and also for holding public meetings. Merrick Sawyer was the teacher. Each pupil had to pay so much per quarter for tuition, the fees varying from 5 shillings to 8 shillings, according to the subjects taken.

Prior to 1832, Mr. E. C. Hull taught a school in a frame building at Hull's Corners.

About the same date, Mr. Andrew Jeffrey, afterwards member of Parliament, kept a large private school on the north side

of King street east—the spot now occupied by Mrs. Wm. Rosevear's residence. Both girls and boys attended this school.

There was also a private school in a frame building on the King street lot just west of Duncan's feed store, which Mr. M. Cunningham taught for many years.

On the site of the Balmoral hotel a Miss Butler kept private school for girls.

Before 1840, on the premises now owned by Mr. D. H. Minaker, corner of King and Church streets, Mr. and Mrs. Borridale taught school.

For several years prior to this time a frame building on Ontario street, opposite Brown's blacksmith shop, was used as a common school. This school was distinguished for it possessed a bell. The building was afterwarda used as No. 3 engine house.

Several years after this school had been closed, Mr. Redmond opened a private school south of the Matting factory on William street. Another private school was opened in a house owned by Mr. A. Pringle, situated just west of Hooey's store on King street. This school room was also used as a place of worship on Sundays. Rev. Wm. Hayden often conducting a Congregational service there.

Perhaps the most important elementary school in Cobourg was the Parochial school founded by the Anglican authorities. It was a large barn-like building which formerly stood about midway between King and Queen streets on the old Collegiate grounds. This school was opened before 1830, and an Irishman named Ovens was one of its first dominees. Rev. Mr. McCauley

did not approve of Mr. Ovens' severe methods of imparting instruction at the end of a birch rod and he took charge of the rod himself and used it in a much milder manner.

About 1830, Mr. McLaren, a Scotchman, started a small school on the spot where Mr. W. Battell's residence now stands. He subsequently moved into a frame house on Albert street where the late Hugh Gordon resided. This teacher used to walk up and down in the schoolroom, strap in hand, and to encourage them in their studies, he would call out, "Now, pull ahead, boys! pull ahead!" For this reason he was popularly known as "Old Pull-ahead."

For several years previous to 1837, Mr. Pomeroy had a school near the corner of James and Division streets. The house was on the south side of James street. At the same time Mr. Hudspeth also kept a school on Division street and afterwards moved into another building almost opposite St. Peter's Rectory.

In 1841 Mr. Redmond opened a private school on Spring street in a house owned by Mr. Tremble. The late Chief Justice Thomas Moss and the present Chief Justice Moss were two of his distinguished pupils. Mr. Redmond afterwards moved to Ball street where he taught a district school for many years.

Previous to 1850 there was a private school kept upstairs in a building which stood near the corner of Division and Swayne streets on the site of the present Hitchins block. Mr. Ratcliffe taught here. This school was also taught by a Mr. Bothwell.

✦ Public Schools ✦

The first school section in Cobourg was formed in the neighborhood of the old Court House, and the first common school teacher of whom we have any record was named Hamilton. Other teachers at this school, famous in their day, were Messrs. Patterson and David Johnston. The old school house was erected by the district ratepayers on land donated for the purpose by the Burnham family. This was the only school building in the corporation actually owned by the people. There were four other common schools open at the time, but all were rented premises.

The second school district included the Ball street neighborhood. The school house was a small building on Ball street, which is still standing in a good state of preservation just north of the Baptist Church. Mrs. W. B. Thomas is the present owner. It was here that Mr Redmond swayed the sceptre so long.

School section No. 3, had for its centre John and Chapel streets, and this school was started in a house occupied by Mr. N. Wilson, who taught it. For many years the old building stood on the east of the Methodist Church shed.

School section No. 4 had Queen street for its centre. The building popularly known as "the Cork Town school," was originally rented from the authorities of the Church of England who had used it as a theological seminary. Mr. Good was the first teacher. He was followed by Mr. Down. The building has been somewhat altered since then.

School section No. 5 had for its centre the frame building im-

mediately to the north of Greer's livery stable on King street. Some of the posts and boards of the old building may yet be seen.

These schools were opened at different times before 1846. They were not as at present, under the direction of a Public School Board. Each district elected three trustees to look after its own school. The teachers were paid partly by local and government grants, but principally by the pupils, who were required to pay quarterly fees for their tuition. The more pupils a teacher could secure, the greater was his salary. There was no provision made for inspection and the teachers did not require any special qualifications.

This brings the history of the schools down to 1847, and is based principally upon information received from the oldest inhabitants of the town.

The first minutes of the Public School Board, dated 15th Nov., 1847, show that the first Board was composed as follows: Asa A. Burnham, chairman; A. Milne, T. Scott, Geo. Stephens, J. V. Boswell, O. W. Powell and H. J. Ruttan, the latter acting as secretary.

In 1848 David Brodie was appointed superintendent of the schools at a salary of £10 per annum.

The teachers appointed were: No. 1—Mr. Hamilton; No. 2—Mr. Redmond; No. 3—Mr. N. Wilson; No. 4—Mr. Kingnan. Each teacher was allowed £50 per annum, exclusive of the rate according to the number of scholars. In those early days the pupils were supplied with free text books recommended by the chief superintendent of education.

In 1850 we find that the Board was composed of Rev. Dr.

Bethune, chairman; John Beatty, M. D., Thomas Eyre, Asa A. Burnham, John Richardson and John Kennedy. Dr. Beatty was appointed secretary, which position he held for many years.

On Oct. 27, 1852, Mr. Hayter was appointed superintendent of the common schools. Mr. Robertson was engaged to teach singing to the children at a salary of £50 per annum.

In 1855 a male teacher's salary was £100 per annum.

The Archdeacon of York requested to be allowed the privilege of imparting religious instruction in the schools. After exciting a bitter controversy, this subject was dropped.

In 1854, the assessment for school purposes was £350.

In 1856, the first lady teacher, Miss Stickles, was engaged by the Board. She was appointed principal of the Court House school at a salary of £70.

In 1857, Rev. J. W. Bredin was elected chairman of the Board. During the following year Rev. Father Timlin, parish priest, sent a formal notice to the Board, declaring that the Catholics intended to establish and support a Separate School at Cobourg.

Dr. Beatty resigned his position as secretary and superintendent in 1858, and Dr. N. W. Powell was appointed to the position of secretary, which he held until 1890, when the present secretary, Mr. Alexander Poe, was appointed.

In 1860 a night school was opened in school No. 4 with 18 pupils.

In 1862, the Parochial (Queen street) school was purchased by the Board for $600 and a ground rental of $20 a year. This was the second building owned by the Board.

In 1870 a new school site was purchased from Mr. David Ross and Mr. Lauder. Bagot street school was built on this lot and opened in 1872, with Mr. D. Johnston as principal.

In 1870, 344 pupils were enrolled in the Cobourg schools. There are at this date over 600.

In 1873 the site of the Central School on University Avenue, west of the Crossen car shops, was purchased from the Rev. Isaac Howard for the sum of $1200. The new school was erected at a cost of $4300. It was a county Model School from 1875 until 1897. The following have occupied the position of principal, viz: Messrs. Dorland, W. E. Sprague, W. F. McDermaid, A. Barber, W. J. Hamilton and J. Burchill, M. A.

The old Court House school, having fallen into decay and desuetude, was closed for several years; but in 1897, chiefly owing to Major H. J. Snelgrove's initiative, a handsome new brick school was erected and opened at a cost of $1000, to the great convenience of the children in the rural suburbs of the town. In memory of the late Queen, this school is now called the Victoria.

In 1871, the late Rev. Dr. Laing was appointed inspector. He held the position for one year when the late E. Scarlett was appointed. He remained in this office until 1895 and was succeeded by the present inspector, Mr. A. Odell.

The late P. McCallum, Sr., C. C. Field, and John Daintry each filled in turn the honorable position of chairman of the Board. Mr. Thomas Gillbard was chairman for the first time

in 1869, and has been re-elected repeatedly up to date. He has been a member of the Board continuously since 1864—the long period of 40 years. The other members of the Board are: Messrs. E. H. Osler, H. J Snelgrove, Jas. Kerr and John McCaughey.

In conclusion we have to express much regret that our beautiful and healthful town has not progressed more in the last fifty years than it has, according to the showing of today. In 1856-'57 Cobourg had a population of over six thousand souls, whilst the census of 1901 gives us only 4200. There must be some cause for this, but we do not propose to go into an extended review of the causes, for there must be more than one cause. One prime cause, however, is the apathy of the honest, capable people in regard to the public affairs of our town. No man can fairly deny that we have honest and very capable men amongst us who thoroughly understand the affairs of the town, but who have been deterred from allowing themselves to be put in nomination for the trustworthy position of a member of the Council, because the greater portion of the electorate have in the past more readily supported the habitue of the bar-room or unfit man on the ground that he is "a good-fellow" rather than the experienced capable man. Until the people get over this serious mistake and put forward only experienced and competent men for our municipal council no genuine material progress need be looked for. See your town now groaning under a debt of [redacted] for which nearly half the exhorbitant taxes taken annually from the people goes to pay interest. No place under such a tax as that to which we are subjected can prosper as we have had reason to hope it should. People of means who know this are afraid to settle amongst us. Cobourg has always been a

happy hunting ground for the adventurous sharper and subsidy seeker, but should be so no longer.

Cobourg seems to be over done in several business ventures, whilst the unproductive professions are out of all proportion to the wants of the town. We have no less than 21 grocery stores; 10 dry goods and clothing; 5 ladies' furnishings and millinery; 2 general stores with mixed stock; 6 custom dress makers, with rooms; 5 practical tailor shops; 5 boot and shoe stores; 3 practical shoemakers' shops, and 2 or 3 cobblers; 3 green grocer and fruit stores; 4 jewellers and watchmakers; 6 butchers' meat shops; 3 flour and feed; 2 grain merchants; 1 floor mill; 3 bakeries; 2 hardware stores; 4 coal depots; 11 hotels, including 3 summer hotels; 2 liquor stores; 2 saddle and harness shops; 4 drug stores; 6 practicing, and 3 non-practicing doctors; 5 dentists; 5 barbers; 2 banks; 1 lumber and supply yard; 1 planing mill; 2 bookstores; 3 coal oil depots; 6 milk pedlers; 4 blacksmith shops; 3 carriage shops; 4 livery stables; 1 veterinary surgeon; 4 market gardens; 1 seed store; 2 second-hand stores; 3 newspapers; 1 pump-maker; 2 telegraph and 1 telephone office; 2 brick yards; 1 ice-man; 2 cold storages; 1 skating rink; nine lawyers. The people of Cobourg generally have always been good, generous and hospitable, never too censorious, but always willing to give merit where merit is due, and so may it continue to be with the people of our good old town to the end.

To the readers of the foregoing pages of history, be it understood that the work was undertaken at the request of the Mayor, by the late Daniel McAllister, as a labour of love. The printing was authorized by a resolution of the Council.

Mr. McAllister, unfortunately was thrown from his carriage while driving along University Ave. His injuries proved fatal and he died on July 21st, 1903. Mr. McAllister's death occurred before he had an opportunity to revise his work ; the omission of any important event will thus be explained. Believing that what was written would be a splendid foundation for any future historian, the committee in charge accepted the work.

We wish to thank the several gentlemen whose valuable assistance was gratefully received :—

C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Toronto ; O. W. Powell, Esq. ; H. J. Snelgrove, Esq., Cobourg ; and Wm. Peters, Esq., Baltimore, Ont., for notes.

And Lieut.-Col. Smith, Military Secretary, Ottawa ; George Guillet, Esq., ex-M. P., Cobourg, for revising the work.

. H. Floyd, Mayor,
. . Ewing.

Cobourg, December, 1903.